

VOLUME I (EXCERPT)  
UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK  
-----x  
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

vs. 1:2012-CR-381

MICHAEL BOUCHARD,

Defendant.

-----x  
Transcript of a Jury Trial Excerpt held on  
November 14, 2012, at the James Hanley Federal  
Building, 100 South Clinton Street, Syracuse,  
New York, the HONORABLE NORMAN A. MORDUE, United  
States District Judge, Presiding.

A P P E A R A N C E S

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<u>Witness</u>	<u>D</u>	<u>C</u>	<u>RD</u>	<u>RC</u>	<u>FRD</u>	<u>FRC</u>
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1                   MS. THOMSON: Now we'll call our first  
2 witness. Government calls Irma Valdez.

3                   THE CLERK: Good morning. If you could stand  
4 right here, please. State and spell your full name for the  
5 record.

6                   THE WITNESS: Irma Marie Valdez, I-r-m-a,  
7 M-a-r-i-e, V-a-l-d-e-z.

8

9                   I R M A   M . V A L D E Z , called as a  
10 witness and being duly sworn, testifies as follows:

11                   DIRECT EXAMINATION BY MS. THOMSON:

12                   Q   Good morning.

13                   A   Good morning.

14                   Q   Could you please introduce yourself to the  
15 members of the grand jury. Or of the jury.

16                   THE COURT: Not a grand jury.

17                   A   My name is Irma Marie Valdez.

18                   Q   And could you tell the jury where you work?

19                   A   I currently work for Signature Group Holdings,  
20 successor in interest to Fremont Reorganizing Corporation  
21 formerly known as Fremont Investment & Loan.

22                   Q   How long did you work for Fremont?

23                   A   I was hired back in October of '97, and I've  
24 held several positions there.

25                   Q   Can you tell us what some of those positions

1 are and were?

2           A     Sure. From October of '97 up until August of  
3 2002, I was a senior underwriter in our lending division.  
4 From August of 2002 up until February of 2008, I -- my title  
5 was a senior training, senior training specialist where I  
6 would train account executives nationwide on Fremont's  
7 underwriting guidelines and then February of 2008, that's  
8 kind of where the market took a turn so I held various  
9 positions, and -- but basically my job consisted of, which is  
10 my title now, is senior investigation research specialist  
11 where I investigate mortgage fraud, stolen identity, I work  
12 closely with the legal department in investigating  
13 origination issues.

14           Q     And you've been doing that particular position  
15 since about 2008?

16           A     Correct.

17           Q     Could you tell us what the Federal Deposit  
18 Insurance Corporation is?

19           A     That's a U.S. corporation that insures  
20 deposits in the U.S. against bank failure.

21           Q     Was Fremont Investment & Loan guaranteed by  
22 the FDIC in the years 2002 through 2007?

23           A     Yes, we were.

24           Q     And were the depository accounts of Fremont  
25 Investment & Loan guaranteed by the FDIC?

1           A     That is correct.

2           Q     What does that mean?

3           A     That means that if -- they're insured up to a  
4 certain amount, we had a retail banking division that  
5 received deposits from and was insured, our whole company was  
6 insured by the FDIC and just in case, their money is secure,  
7 it's not going to -- just in case the bank goes bad, they  
8 will get paid out, up to a certain portion, I think it's,  
9 there's a -- a hundred thousand, up to individual or if  
10 there's a joint, there's a certain dollar amount.

11          Q     At this time I'm going to show you what has  
12 been previously received into evidence as Exhibit 1.1, and  
13 I'm going to ask you if you recognize Exhibit 1.1.

14          A     Yes. This is the certification from the FDIC  
15 and the copy of the certificate we hold in, it was framed in  
16 our front office.

17          Q     And could we see the certificate which is the  
18 last page of Exhibit 1.1, please. That's it, thank you. The  
19 certificate that you reference, is that the certificate  
20 that's displayed on the screen?

21          A     That is correct.

22          Q     And that certificate says what?

23          A     It states that hereby certifies that the  
24 deposits of each depository in Fremont Investment & Loan,  
25 Brea, California are insured to the maximum amount provided

1 by the Federal Deposit Insurance Act.

2 Q Now in the years 2002 through 2007, did  
3 Fremont offer mortgages?

4 A We did.

5 Q So if we could take it from the beginning.

6 When a person's interested in buying a house, could you tell  
7 us what the first step of that process is?

8 A When someone's interested in purchasing a  
9 home, there's work they do prior to -- they usually connect  
10 themselves or they go around and look for a property that  
11 they wish to purchase. Sometimes they will hire a realtor,  
12 majority of the times they hire a realtor, and once they  
13 decide on a home that they would like to purchase, they  
14 submit a written offer to the seller of the home, and that  
15 written offer is filled out in a purchase contract and the  
16 purchase contract is submitted to the seller. The seller  
17 could either agree with the price that they offered or they  
18 can counter, and so sometimes there's some counteroffers  
19 going back and forth. If both parties agree on a price, then  
20 they sign the contract together and then they proceed with  
21 the next step which is typically getting an appraisal to  
22 determine the actual value of the property.

23 Q Now focusing here on residential mortgages and  
24 multi-family dwellings, how does a borrower get a mortgage to  
25 purchase property?

1                   A     Okay. In continuing with the purchase, most  
2 people don't have means to pay cash outright so they look to  
3 get financing. To finance a mortgage there's a couple  
4 options. There's the retail side where the borrower goes  
5 directly to the bank, the bank, they fill out an application  
6 with any bank that they've decided to get financing from, the  
7 bank completes the application with them, collects some  
8 information and if they approve them, then they proceed. If  
9 they don't, then the borrower has to go to another bank,  
10 that's the retail, where the borrower has to do the work of  
11 shopping for the loan. Fremont was a wholesale lender.  
12 Wholesale lender means that the borrower goes to mortgage  
13 broker or mortgage banker, and the broker helps them complete  
14 the application, and then once the application is completed,  
15 the broker shops the loan to the various lenders for -- on  
16 behalf of the borrower, to obtain financing.

17                   Q     And can you tell us a little bit about what  
18 that process involves, the obtaining the financing?

19                   A     Sure. Once the application, there's a lot of  
20 information that the lender searches in order to process a  
21 loan for a -- approval, the borrower, going through, on the  
22 wholesale side going to the broker, they fill out that loan  
23 application which we call a 1003, that's the form number, it  
24 has a bunch of information, they also pull a credit report to  
25 establish a credit grade, they pull, get the appraisal of the

1 property, the preliminary title report and once they compile  
2 all that information, they could get loan -- income  
3 documentation, like a W-2, pay stub, tax returns. Once they  
4 compile all that information, they put it in a loan package  
5 and they submit it to a lender, like as -- like Fremont, and  
6 once Fremont receives it in house, it goes through, we have  
7 various parties it goes to. It goes to a processor to input  
8 into the system and pull our mandatory disclosures and send  
9 it to the borrower, it goes to our underwriter, our  
10 underwriter, their job is to evaluate the entire -- all the  
11 documentation, calculate the income to see if they have the  
12 means to pay the loan back, assess, you know, review the  
13 credit report to establish a credit grade based on the credit  
14 risk and see if what they're requesting for a loan, they  
15 actually qualify based off our parameters and our guidelines.  
16 And then our underwriter will approve or decline the loan.

17 If they approve the loan, it goes to our  
18 account manager who manages the process of getting any  
19 outstanding stipulations or conditions to the loan, and then  
20 it would go to our doc. person who works closely, our account  
21 manager and our doc. people work closely with the closing  
22 agent and the title company to get the docs prepared and sent  
23 out for the borrower to sign, and once all that information  
24 is sent over, the closing agent which is also considered the  
25 settlement agent in the state of New York here that's an

1       actual attorney, all the documents get sent to them and they  
2       complete the closing process and they send the initial  
3       paperwork -- I mean certain paperwork back to us, certain  
4       paperwork to the title company and they close the loan. We  
5       actually fund money to their account to help, you know,  
6       disburse the funds based off the information in the file.

7           Q     If I understand you, you mentioned that an  
8       attorney in the state of New York will be the one who handles  
9       the closings, is that correct?

10          A     That is correct.

11          Q     And who handled the closings for Fremont?

12          A     Fremont funded two loans, two properties were  
13       funded and the Bouchard Law Firm was the closing settlement  
14       agent in that -- those two cases.

15          Q     And how was the Bouchard Law Firm selected as  
16       a settlement agent for the two cases that you've referenced?

17          A     The mortgage broker, mortgage banker is the  
18       one that fills out what we call a broker demand, fees that  
19       are going to be charged, who's going to close it, other  
20       information as far as any impounds on the accounts and where  
21       they send us closing instructions on where the closing agent  
22       that they selected sends us a confirmation of where the funds  
23       are to be wired to, wiring instructions.

24          Q     What does Fremont expect from its closing  
25       attorney?

1                   A     Fremont expects the closing attorney to follow  
2 our closing instructions, it's about a nine-page document  
3 that explains in detail what documents are to be signed, what  
4 documents are to be sent back, what documents are to be  
5 notarized, how the funds are to be disbursed, and recipients  
6 and amounts and there's what predisclosures are to be signed,  
7 it's a pretty in-depth document.

8                   Q     Now once you have the settlement attorney  
9 identified and once you have the loan approved, is there a  
10 HUD-1 or any documentation that's prepared for the closing?

11                  A     That is correct. Prior to the docs being  
12 drawn on our end, our account manager will initially request  
13 a -- our account manager or our funder, prior to drawing the  
14 docs will request an estimated HUD-1 from the closing agent  
15 or the settlement agent, which are one and the same. And the  
16 estimated HUD-1 is a document, it's -- it describes all the  
17 disbursements and receipts, any parties that brought in money  
18 for this transaction, any parties that are -- is due a fee at  
19 the end of this transaction, or even money that is paid out  
20 of closing, for example if they paid an appraisal and they  
21 paid out a check, that would be noted, any -- anything that's  
22 related to this transaction, specific transaction must be  
23 noted and identified on this estimated HUD-1, so our funder  
24 can evaluate it, determine it's accurate and then proceed  
25 with drawing the documents so the documents, fees and amounts

1       are accurate as well.

2           Q     After that HUD-1 is prepared and received by  
3     Fremont, what's the next step in the process?

4           A     Actually drawing the docs and e-mailing them  
5     to the closing agent so the closing agent can call the  
6     borrower up and have them come in and sign.

7           Q     When the decision is made to approve the loan  
8     and you have a closing date selected, at some point does  
9     Fremont fund the loan?

10          A     That is correct. Fremont wires the fees to  
11     the -- we receive wiring instructions and it's towards the  
12     end of the process, it's wired into, you know, the account of  
13     the closing agent which is an escrow account or a trust  
14     account.

15          Q     What is an escrow account?

16          A     It's an account established to basically park  
17     the money until it's disbursed based off the instructions and  
18     the HUD-1.

19          Q     And what's the obligation that the attorney  
20     has with regard to the money that's placed in their escrow  
21     account, of the money of the lenders?

22          A     To disburse the funds accordingly.

23          Q     When that money, the lender's money, is in the  
24     attorney's escrow account, who does that money belong to?

25          A     That money is technically still Fremont's and

1       it's held there to be disbursed. We rely heavily on the job  
2       of the closing agent to be responsible to disburse it  
3       according to the lending instructions.

4           Q     You've mentioned lending instructions. Are  
5       those written instructions?

6           A     Yes, that is correct.

7           Q     And what do those instructions tell the  
8       closing attorney about the disbursement of the money at the  
9       closing?

10          A     It specifically states that all disbursements  
11       need to be disbursed according to the recipients on the HUD  
12       and the specific dollar amounts, if any money is to be  
13       collected, it's got the dollar amounts on the HUDs also and  
14       if it's a purchase transaction, the seller has to be, you  
15       know, if seller is receiving funds back, it has to go  
16       directly to the seller and it also indicates throughout the  
17       HUD if there's any changes to the way that the disbursements  
18       are made, the lender must be notified and we need to approve  
19       it in writing prior, for them to disburse it because in some  
20       cases, if there's changes of fees, we need to know because it  
21       could be affecting the APR and we may have to redraw the  
22       documents and have it actually resigned.

23          Q     You used the term APR, what's that term mean?

24          A     Annual percentage rate, it's on the truth in  
25       lending form and it's required by federal law to be disclosed

1 accurately.

2 Q So if there were a change to some of the terms  
3 in the loan, that might affect the rate at which Fremont is  
4 getting paid back on the loan?

5 A Oh, absolutely.

6 Q Is that what you mean by it might change the  
7 APR?

8 A Correct. If the fees change, then it slightly  
9 changes the whole dynamic of the entire financing model.

10 Q At this time I'm going to show you what's  
11 previously been received into evidence as Government's  
12 Exhibit Number 1.27, I'm going to ask you to take a look at  
13 that document and I can retrieve that back from you. Looking  
14 at Exhibit 1.27, can you tell us what the first two pages of  
15 this exhibit are?

16 A The first two pages, the final HUD-1  
17 settlement statement of the 1 Sheridan Avenue, Troy, New York  
18 property, that we financed.

19 Q Is this a HUD-1, the first two pages?

20 A Yes, it is.

21 Q Now does that HUD-1 indicate who the buyer of  
22 the property is?

23 A Yes, it does. The buyer is Brian Haskins, on  
24 the top left-hand side, item D.

25 Q And how about the seller?

1           A     The seller is Deborah Bueg.

2           Q     I believe you indicated it's indicated on the  
3     HUD-1 that this was a loan where Fremont was the lender, is  
4     that correct?

5           A     Yes, that is correct.

6           Q     And could you tell us what the property that  
7     is being purchased, the address?

8           A     1 Sheraton Avenue, Troy, 1 -- 12180.

9           Q     Who prepared this HUD?

10          A     This was prepared by the settlement agent, the  
11     Bouchard Law Firm.

12          Q     Is that noted on the HUD?

13          A     It is on H, right next to the property  
14     address.

15          Q     And can you also tell me if the date is noted  
16     on the HUD?

17          A     Yes, the settlement date is on the right-hand  
18     side on -- it says settlement date 4/18/2005.

19          Q     Now looking at this document, can you tell us  
20     where the sales price is listed?

21          A     The sales price is listed on item 101,  
22     contract sales price, 85,000.

23          Q     Is this the price that the buyer was  
24     contracting with the seller to purchase the property?

25          A     That is correct.

1           Q     Now that contract price, is that important to  
2 Fremont?

3           A     Oh, absolutely.

4           Q     Why?

5           A     In underwriting, in the initial underwriting  
6 stages, the underwriter reviews the sales contract to  
7 determine what price they have agreed upon, and we, we  
8 evaluate it along with the appraised value. Whenever there's  
9 a difference between the appraised value and the purchase  
10 price, as an underwriter we always use the lower of the two,  
11 so we're always looking at the value of the property, whether  
12 it be the purchase price or the appraised value. We  
13 typically take the conservative approach because sometimes  
14 there's -- I mean sometimes the borrower is buying the  
15 property for less than what it's actually truly worth or vice  
16 versa. It's -- sometimes there's a bidding war and they  
17 might pay a little bit more than what it's worth.

18           Q     Can you tell us what the loan amount is listed  
19 on this HUD-1?

20           A     The loan amount is 75 -- I'm sorry, 76,500,  
21 it's on line 202.

22           Q     Now looking at the HUD-1, can you tell if the  
23 buyer is expected to bring money to the closing, and if so,  
24 what that amount is?

25           A     On line 303 on the very bottom here it says

1 cash from borrower and the total amount on the very bottom  
2 \$16,580.39.

3 Q So that's the amount that the buyer is to  
4 bring to close this loan?

5 A That is correct.

6 Q And this HUD reflects that the buyer is going  
7 to bring that amount?

8 A Yes.

9 Q Is the amount that the buyer is bringing to  
10 the closing important to Fremont?

11 A Absolutely. The loan was approved, on this  
12 particular deal, this loan was approved on 90 percent loan to  
13 value. Loan to value is the ratio of what the property is  
14 worth and how much we're going to lend. As a lender we never  
15 lend -- on these two loans we funded, they were also  
16 considered non-owner-occupied properties so we would never  
17 lend 100 percent on non-owner-occupied property, investment  
18 properties where the borrower is not going to reside in the  
19 subject. So it was important that the borrower brought cash  
20 to close.

21 Q You indicated an importance with regard to  
22 non-owner-occupied properties. Why is it particularly  
23 important for non-owner-occupied properties?

24 A In reviewing a risk of a file, there's  
25 different risk levels. Owner occupied where someone's going

1 to live in it, that's the best risk, it's a lot lower because  
2 most people, you know, if something were to happen  
3 financially, they're going to pay the roof over their head  
4 versus a property they don't actually reside in. And in an  
5 investment property as a lender, we don't lend -- Fremont did  
6 not allow lending up to a hundred percent because we wanted  
7 the borrower to have vested interest in the property as well,  
8 skin in the game, if something were to happen, they're going  
9 to potentially lose money, not just the lender.

10 Q So if the buyer was going to come to this  
11 closing without putting any money down, would Fremont have  
12 funded the loan?

13 A Absolutely not.

14 Q What was the amount that Fremont did agree to  
15 lend this borrower?

16 A Fremont agreed to lend this borrower 76,500  
17 which is on line 202.

18 Q How does Fremont insure that the buyer  
19 actually brings funds to the closing?

20 A Fremont relies on the settlement agent or the  
21 closing agent to receive the funds because it's part of their  
22 responsibilities and they provide us a receipt, a document,  
23 the cashier's check or whatever was provided to them, with  
24 the specific dollar amount to show that the funds are  
25 available and we're ready to close.

1           Q     When you say receipt, the settlement attorney  
2 doesn't send you the check, correct?

3           A     No, it's a copy.

4           Q     They send you a copy of the check?

5           A     Correct.

6           Q     The fact that the settlement agent needs to  
7 show that proof that the buyer brought money to the closing,  
8 is that instruction contained in those written instructions  
9 that are given to the settlement attorney?

10          A     Yes, it is.

11          Q     Now looking again at this HUD, how much money  
12 was noted to be paid to the seller?

13          A     The seller was to receive \$82,910.46, it's on  
14 line 603.

15          Q     Now the amount that goes to the seller, is  
16 that important to Fremont when it considers the loans?

17          A     Absolutely.

18          Q     Why?

19          A     The accounting on this transaction needs to  
20 balance and we need to make sure that the seller receives the  
21 funds accordingly. If -- once again on our closing  
22 instructions, it specifically states if the seller is due  
23 funds, they must -- it must go to the seller only. If the  
24 funds go to other places, the lender must be notified prior  
25 to that actually happening.

1                   Q     Now if we could turn to the next page after  
2 the HUD, please. I'd ask you if you recognize what the next  
3 document is after the HUD.

4                   A     This is the specific amounts that were paid to  
5 individuals or companies that -- for services rendered or  
6 possibly property taxes to pay recording, so it's an itemized  
7 list of what -- on the seller and the, the buyer and the  
8 seller side.

9                   Q     Now if you could turn to the page after the  
10 HUD. Could you tell me what that document is.

11                  A     Appears to be a purchase contract for  
12 1 Sheridan Avenue, Troy.

13                  Q     Is that the same property that's listed on the  
14 HUD?

15                  A     Yes, it is.

16                  Q     And what does it recite the contract price to  
17 be, the price that the house is going to be purchased?

18                  A     45,000.

19                  Q     Now the HUD-1, I believe from your testimony  
20 from looking at the document showed a contract price of  
21 85,000. Would that difference be important to Fremont?

22                  A     Absolutely. If this purchase contract was  
23 evaluated and reviewed by the underwriter, the underwriter  
24 would pretty much stop and decline this transaction. Reason  
25 being is that there is concern in regards to the appraised

1 value if someone's willing to purchase this property for  
2 45,000, Fremont would have never lent 76,500 on a property  
3 that's only worth 45,000.

4 Q Looking at that contract, who is the buyer on  
5 the sales contract?

6 A The buyer in this transaction is Greater  
7 Atlantic Association and or assigns.

8 Q Who's the buyer that's noted on the HUD-1?

9 A Brian Haskins.

10 Q Would that difference be important to Fremont?

11 A Absolutely. This indicates it was what we  
12 call a flip transaction where the property is sold for, in a  
13 short period of time to two different parties and the value  
14 has increased in a short period of time. It would have been  
15 declined.

16 Q Now if we could turn to the next document  
17 after the sales contract. If you could tell me if you  
18 recognize what that document is.

19 A These are Fremont's lending and closing  
20 instructions.

21 Q Are these the written instructions you've  
22 already testified goes to the settlement attorney?

23 A Yes, that is correct.

24 Q The name of the settlement or the closing  
25 agent, is that on the instructions?

1           A     Yes, on the top left-hand side, the Bouchard  
2 Law Firm.

3           Q     Could you read the directions written in bold  
4 that begin with, "Do not disburse," could you read those  
5 directions?

6           A     "Do not disburse without calling lender for  
7 funding number. Before you can disburse, lender must receive  
8 via fax the following: HUD-1."

9           Q     Does it indicate a HUD-1 is needed?

10          A     Yes, it does.

11          Q     Why?

12          A     Because we need to make sure that the  
13 recipients and the fees disbursed are according to what we  
14 approved.

15          Q     And if you could turn to the next page of that  
16 document. On the second page of that document, does Fremont  
17 Mortgage give Bouchard Law Firm specific directions about the  
18 accuracy of the HUD-1?

19          A     Yes. It's on the bottom section, E.

20          Q     If you could read that for us, please.

21          A     "HUD settlement statement E1. The final HUD-1  
22 settlement statement must accurately describe the receipts  
23 and disbursements indicated in these closing instructions and  
24 any amended closing instructions; each recipient of fees or  
25 disbursements must be clearly identified." E2 is, "If any

1 changes to the fees occur without the express written  
2 approval of the lender, the loan documents will need to be  
3 redrawn and resigned by the appropriate parties."

4 Q And if you could look at E4, please.

5 A E4 states, "If this is a purchase transaction,  
6 sellers' funds must be disbursed to seller only, unless you  
7 have received lender's written approval to do otherwise."

8 Q So those are the instructions that are given  
9 to your settlement agent, your closing attorney?

10 A Absolutely.

11 Q Do the instructions say that Fremont needs a  
12 copy of the certified funds brought to the closing by the  
13 buyer?

14 A Yes.

15 Q Now taking a look at the instructions, are  
16 those instructions signed by your settlement agent?

17 A Yes, they are. It's on page 6.

18 Q All right. Looking at the document, where is  
19 it indicated that the closing agent signs?

20 A On the top section, it says -- it has closing  
21 agent signature.

22 Q And could you read the instruction immediately  
23 above the closing agent's signature?

24 A Sure. It's, on top it says, "This loan must  
25 be closed and disbursed according to these instructions. If

1 you obtain information that is contrary to the information  
2 contained herein, do not proceed with the closing until you  
3 have contacted your funder for authorization of changes. Do  
4 not disburse any funds until you have complied with all of  
5 the requirements contained in these instructions." Then it  
6 says, "This loan was closed and disbursed in strict  
7 accordance with these instructions."

8 Q Now I'm going to have you take a look at some  
9 of the checks that were associated with this closing. Do you  
10 see in the exhibit that's been handed to you that there are  
11 some checks?

12 A Yes.

13 Q Now you see in front of you hopefully and also  
14 the actual copy that there's a check in the amount of  
15 \$23,769.61, to Brian Haskins?

16 A Yes, I see that.

17 Q Should that check have been issued by your  
18 settlement agent?

19 A Absolutely not.

20 Q Why not?

21 A This is a purchase transaction, the borrower  
22 is not to make any money off the purchase transaction,  
23 they're just purchasing a mortgage and in most cases they're  
24 going to bring in money to close the transaction. Any funds  
25 given to the borrower must have been disclosed properly on

1       the HUD-1 and approved by the lender prior.

2           Q     We don't need to go back to the HUD but  
3       looking at the HUD in Exhibit 1.27, what amount was the buyer  
4       supposed to bring to the closing?

5           A     It was \$16,580.39.

6           Q     If we could go to the next check, please. The  
7       check that you see in front of you on the screen in paper  
8       copy, who is that check made payable to?

9           A     Michael Bouchard.

10          Q     In what amount?

11          A     500.

12          Q     So was Michael Bouchard paid from the mortgage  
13       funds for his services as a settlement agent?

14          A     Yes, and I believe that is the correct amount  
15       that he was to receive, yes.

16          Q     If you could take a look at the next exhibit,  
17       and that is a check stub. Can you tell me if that check stub  
18       indicates an amount that was paid out of the HSBC bank  
19       account?

20          A     \$42,410.46.

21          Q     Was that the amount that was disbursed to the  
22       seller of this property?

23          A     No, it should have been \$82,910.46.

24          Q     So the seller should have received 82,910.46?

25          A     That is correct.

1           Q     And there's a check here that's indicated  
2     \$42,410.46?

3           A     That is correct.

4           Q     Looking at the documents that you have in  
5     front of you, does the HUD-1 accurately reflect the  
6     disbursements that were mailed at this closing?

7           A     Absolutely not.

8           Q     Was that -- would that be important to  
9     Fremont?

10          A     If Fremont would have known that information  
11     prior to funding this loan or -- it would have unwound the  
12     loan and requested the funds back.

13          Q     Whose responsibility is it to make sure that  
14     the disbursements are done in accordance with the HUD-1?

15          A     On this transaction, the Bouchard Law Firm.

16          Q     I'm going to show you a document that's been  
17     received into evidence and that would be Exhibit 17.4.  
18     You've previously given testimony that there were two  
19     properties that Fremont mortgage used the Bouchard Law Firm?

20          A     Yes.

21          Q     Is that the second property?

22          A     Correct, this is 147 Fifth Avenue in Troy,  
23     New York.

24          Q     And as indicated on the HUD-1 that Fremont was  
25     the lender?

1           A     Yes, it was.

2           Q     Who was the buyer on this property?

3           A     Brian Haskins.

4           Q     And who was the seller?

5           A     Pamela Stessel Wells.

6           Q     The HUD that you're looking at, who prepared  
7     this HUD?

8           A     The Bouchard Law Firm.

9           Q     Could you tell us what the contract sales  
10    price is on this HUD?

11          A     110,000.

12          Q     And where is that listed?

13          A     On line 101.

14          Q     What was the loan amount that Fremont was  
15    lending to the borrower?

16          A     It's on line 202, it's 88,000.

17          Q     Does this HUD-1 reflect that the borrower  
18    Brian Haskins will be bringing money to the closing?

19          A     That is correct, it's on line 303, it's  
20    \$31,961.26.

21          Q     Would Fremont have made this loan if the  
22    buyer, Mr. Haskins, was not bringing \$31,961.26 to the  
23    closing?

24          A     Fremont would not have funded the loan if the  
25    borrower did not bring the 31,000 as indicated on the HUD,

1 because that's the way the loan was approved.

2 Q So for this loan, how would Fremont insure  
3 that the buyer was bringing that, those proceeds to the  
4 closing?

5 A Once again, we rely on the closing agent to  
6 provide us documentation from the borrower which is a copy of  
7 the cashier's check, the bank check, whatever it may have  
8 been that he brought in.

9 Q And would this loan also have had the same  
10 instructions about that to your settlement agent?

11 A That is correct.

12 Q Looking at the HUD, how much money is supposed  
13 to be paid to the seller?

14 A Seller is to receive on line 603 \$71,906.88.

15 Q I'm now going to show you --

16 THE COURT: What line was that?

17 THE WITNESS: Very bottom, 603.

18 THE COURT: What line was that, 71,000?

19 THE WITNESS: 603.

20 THE COURT: This is Exhibit 17.4.

21 Q Yes, and now I'm going to show the witness  
22 Exhibit 17.5 which has already been received into evidence.  
23 Does Exhibit 17.5 reflect proof of down payment brought to  
24 the closing attorney?

25 A Yes. This is the \$31,961.26.

1                   Q     And that check is the same amount that's noted  
2 on the HUD as the amount required by the borrower for the  
3 closing?

4                   A     That is correct.

5                   Q     Do you know if this money was truly received  
6 and used at the closing?

7                   A     We received a copy of it and it's in our file.

8                   Q     Now going to show you what's been previously  
9 received into evidence as Exhibit 17.91. Can you tell me  
10 what Exhibit 17.91 is?

11                  A     This is a purchase contract.

12                  Q     For what piece of property?

13                  A     Same property, 147 Fifth Avenue, Troy,  
14 New York.

15                  Q     And what's the name of the seller?

16                  A     Greater Atlantic Associates and or assigns.

17                  Q     And what's the amount that the property is  
18 being purchased for?

19                  A     41,000.

20                  Q     That difference, the 41,000 versus the  
21 contract price that you've already testified was 110 on the  
22 HUD, would that difference have been important to Fremont?

23                  A     Absolutely. Once again, if the underwriter  
24 was aware of this purchase contract, this loan would not have  
25 funded.

1           Q     And could you take a look again at  
2 Exhibit 17.4. On the second page. Above the signature of  
3 the Bouchard Law Firm, could you tell us what that says?

4           A     "The HUD-1 settlement statement which I have  
5 prepared is true and correct amount of this transaction. I  
6 have caused or will cause the funds to be disbursed in  
7 accordance with the statement."

8           Q     I'm now going to show you Exhibit 17.6, which  
9 has already been received into evidence. Can you tell me  
10 what Exhibit 17.6 is?

11          A     This is a check to Brian Haskins for  
12 \$38,038.74.

13          Q     So instead of receiving \$31,000 from Brian  
14 Haskins, the settlement attorney disbursed over \$38,000 to  
15 Brian Haskins. Would that difference matter to Fremont?

16          A     Yes, it would, once again.

17          Q     Why?

18          A     It would have -- this was a purchase  
19 transaction, the borrower is not to be making money off of --  
20 I mean the only, on a purchase transaction, they're to  
21 acquire a property, they're not to make money off the  
22 transaction.

23          Q     I'm now going to show you Exhibit 17.3. If  
24 you could tell me what Exhibit 17.3 is.

25          A     It's a check to Pamela Wells which was a

1 seller for \$1,906.88.

2 Q If I recall your testimony on the HUD, it  
3 indicated seller was going to receive \$71,906.88. This check  
4 reflects the seller received \$1,906.88. With the difference  
5 in the disbursement of these checks to the seller, would that  
6 matter to Fremont Mortgage?

7 A Absolutely.

8 Q Why is that?

9 A Our closing instructions were not followed.  
10 They -- if Fremont would have known this up front, they once  
11 again, we would have requested our funds back.

12 Q Does the HUD-1, that is Exhibit 17.4, does  
13 that HUD-1 accurately reflect the disbursements that were  
14 made at this closing?

15 A Yes. Oh, I'm sorry, it's -- they should have  
16 been disbursed this way, they were not disbursed, no, it does  
17 not accurately.

18 Q So looking at the checks which are the  
19 disbursements, those checks do not reflect what is indicated  
20 on the HUD?

21 A That is correct. We received a HUD that does  
22 not indicate what was actually disbursed.

23 Q And so now looking at Exhibit 17.4, the second  
24 page, did Michael Bouchard get paid from the mortgage funds  
25 for this loan?

1           A     Yes.

2           Q     And what amount?

3           A     500.

4           Q     I'm now handing you Government Exhibit 17.4B.

5           I'm going to ask you if you recognize Exhibit 17.4B.

6           A     Yeah, this is our entire loan documentation,  
7                   our preliminary property report section of our loan file.

8           Q     Are these the business records of Fremont  
9                   Investment & Loan?

10          A     Yes, they are.

11          Q     And were these records kept in the ordinary  
12                   course of business of the Fremont Investment & Loan?

13          A     That is correct and they're currently kept as  
14                   of today.

15          Q     And is it the obligation of Fremont to keep  
16                   these records?

17          A     Yes, it is.

18          Q     Were these records kept at or near the time of  
19                   the occurrence that's reflected in the records?

20          A     That is correct.

21                   MS. THOMSON: At this time, your Honor, I  
22                   would move to admit Government Exhibit 17.4B as business  
23                   records of Fremont.

24                   THE COURT: Any objection?

25                   MR. CASTILLO: Just one second, Judge.

1                   No objection, Judge.

2                   THE COURT: Received.

3                   Q     Now, it's a pretty large packet so we'll have  
4     to go through the pages relatively slowly, but if you could  
5     thumb through the package and let us know what is contained  
6     in your records.

7                   A     Okay. The first page, first page is a cover  
8     sheet, just states the section that it's filed under. The  
9     second page is a memorandum, it's the wiring instructions of  
10    where we're going to send the funds, the funds are to be  
11    wired to, in this case, it's to the lender from the Bouchard  
12    group, giving us the instructions of where to wire the money  
13    to.

14                  Q     So that's how Fremont knows what account to  
15    put the proceeds of the loan into?

16                  A     That is correct. The next page is an internal  
17    form, it's a tax service order, gets printed up with all our  
18    files. The following page is a legal description of the  
19    subject property. The next page is -- it's a form that when  
20    our, our department that Visiflos the files, if they  
21    determine that some of the quality of the paper that they're  
22    about to microfilm is poor quality, they just stick this page  
23    in to kind of say, you know, it's not the filming, it was a  
24    poor quality when we received it. Because a lot of, you have  
25    to understand that in the lending process, some -- a lot of

1 documents are scanned, faxed, photocopied, e-mailed, and the  
2 quality of the documents get worn. The next few pages --

3 Q If you could describe them to us, the next  
4 three pages.

5 A They're provided by the -- actually the next  
6 few pages are the liability insurance of the closing agent,  
7 and his next, it's the next couple pages are the proof of --  
8 in the state of New York we're required to get proof that the  
9 closing agent is -- has liability insurance up to a certain  
10 percentage and then they also provide us a -- kind of like a  
11 little resume. So that's the next three pages. This is the  
12 warranty deed showing the transfer from the seller to the  
13 buyer. It appears that there was a correction by the  
14 seller -- I'm sorry, by the buyer, they initialed, and this  
15 is supposed to be recorded concurrently with the documents to  
16 transfer ownership. After the warranty deed which is two  
17 pages, you have -- we receive a preliminary title report, the  
18 preliminary title report is provided by the title company to  
19 the lender, and this has much information on who's currently  
20 vested on the property, who owns it, any liens, any -- it  
21 gives you the property description, and that's quite a few  
22 pages, one, two, three, four, five, six, seven, it gives you  
23 property taxes paid or if they're still pending open. State  
24 of New York has pretty in-depth preliminary title reports.  
25 It's actually kind of nice because it gives you all the

1 bankruptcy information, it has -- it gives, very last page of  
2 the preliminary title report is the -- they do a, due to the  
3 9/11 occurrence, they run names to see if they're in our  
4 system, Patriot Act. And then that's still the legal  
5 description. All part of the preliminary title report,  
6 information that the underwriter reviews to determine, okay,  
7 what liens have to be corrected and paid off to perfect our  
8 lien once this loan eventually records.

9 So this is -- keep going. It's pretty -- it's  
10 the bankruptcy search based on the preliminary title report,  
11 another bankruptcy search. That's the Patriot Act, running  
12 the names. This is an internal form, the final HUD-1 that  
13 our funder determines the APR affecting fees on the HUD-1 and  
14 the loan docs and needs to be within a certain variance. So  
15 that's the internal form to state that it is within the  
16 accurate variance. The next page, this is the copy of the  
17 receipt that we received from the closing agent.

18 Q I'm going to stop you.

19 A Okay.

20 Q So looking through your files, this photocopy  
21 was in the Fremont file having been sent from the Bouchard  
22 Law Firm?

23 A That is correct.

Q Okay. You can keep going to the next page.

25 A This is our copy of the HUD-1 settlement

1 statement or for the 147 Fifth Avenue, Troy, New York.

2 Q So Fremont Mortgage received that HUD-1 from  
3 the Bouchard Law Firm?

4 A That is correct, it's a signed copy.

5 Q And are the remaining pages the copies of, for  
6 example, other copies of the HUD?

7 A Yes, there's the estimated HUD-1 prior to  
8 drawing docs so you've got the final HUD-1, then you've got  
9 copies of the estimated HUD-1 that's not signed, and then we  
10 have the sales contract.

11 Q That sales contract. There we go. Who's  
12 indicated as the seller on this contract?

13 A Pamela Stessel.

14 Q And what's the amount that's indicated on this  
15 sales contract?

16 A 111,000 -- hold on a minute. 110.

17 Q And I believe you gave testimony earlier that  
18 with regard to a different sales contract at a lower price,  
19 is that correct?

20 A That is correct.

21 Q And so within the records of Fremont, the copy  
22 that you have of the sales contract indicates a purchase  
23 price of 110,000?

24 A That is correct.

25 Q And that's the price that's on the HUD you

1 received?

2 A Yes.

3 Q And then after that document, is it basically  
4 the riders that go along with the sale?

5 A Yes, the sales contract has about, you know, I  
6 don't know, 10 to 15 pages depending on if there's  
7 counteroffers and stuff.

8 Q If Fremont had seen the other sales contract  
9 for the price significantly lower than that \$110,000, would  
10 this loan have been funded?

11 A Absolutely not.

12 MS. THOMSON: One moment, your Honor. That's  
13 all I have for this witness. Thank you, and I can retrieve  
14 those documents.

15 THE COURT: Was it 111,000 or 110?

16 THE WITNESS: It's 110,000.

17 THE COURT: Did you say 111,000?

18 THE WITNESS: I think I did because I was  
19 looking at this site but on the top here it says the 110 and  
20 it's written out 110,000. I just briefly looked at the -- it  
21 was handwritten.

22 THE COURT: In any event, in that contract,  
23 Pamela Stressel is the seller at 110,000?

24 THE WITNESS: That is correct.

25 THE COURT: For the same property, 147 Fifth

1 Ave., Troy?

2 THE WITNESS: Yes.

3 THE COURT: Cross?

4 MR. CASTILLO: Yes.

5 CROSS-EXAMINATION BY MR. CASTILLO:

6 Q Good morning.

7 A Good morning.

8 Q If I asked you a question about a prime lender  
9 versus a sub-prime lender, you would know what I'm talking  
10 about, correct?

11 A Yes, that is ...

12 Q And could you please tell the ladies and  
13 gentlemen of the jury what a prime lender is, what that  
14 refers to.

15 A A prime lender is considered a conventional  
16 loan lender. A lot of times they're government-backed  
17 lenders, a sub-prime lender is a nonconforming lender, a  
18 nonconventional lender. We were known as that type of -- we  
19 like to see it as --

20 Q I didn't ask you that question, ma'am, excuse  
21 me, I merely asked you to tell the jury what the differences  
22 are.

23 A Okay.

24 Q So sub-prime lender is what?

25 A The sub-prime lenders evaluates loans and

1       it's -- prime lenders have certain guidelines and they have  
2       to fit in the box. Nonconventional lenders have additional  
3       guidelines where they can -- their box is kind stretch --  
4       kind of goes outside the box. So the prime lender may have  
5       specific strict guidelines as to what the property has to  
6       look like, what their amount of debt ratio they have to have,  
7       and they will not stretch from there. Noncon -- conforming  
8       lender, they have other guidelines.

9                   Q       And when you say nonconforming lender, you're  
10      talking specifically about sub-prime lenders, correct?

11                  A       Yes.

12                  Q       And Fremont, the company that you work for,  
13      was a sub-prime lender, correct?

14                  A       That is correct.

15                  Q       And by that, you will agree, means that your  
16      particular bank, should I call your company a bank or did you  
17      call yourself something else?

18                  A       We were Fremont Investment & Loan.

19                  Q       So Fremont had a box that was more expansive  
20      and would stretch a little bit more than the prime lenders,  
21      correct?

22                  A       Potentially, yes.

23                  Q       Not potentially, that's exactly how it worked,  
24      isn't that right?

25                  A       In some cases.

1           Q     Not in some cases, in all the cases, sub-prime  
2     by definition means that you had looser requirements than  
3     conventional banks, isn't that right?

4           A     Well, not all our borrowers were sub-prime  
5     borrowers.

6           Q     I understand that but you -- when I say you,  
7     now I'm talking about Fremont, you understand that?

8           A     Correct.

9           Q     Fremont put itself out to the public as a  
10    lender that was in the business of sub-prime loans, isn't  
11    that right?

12          A     We were considered, yes.

13          Q     You weren't considered, that's what you --  
14    your company portrayed yourself to the public to be, isn't  
15    that right?

16          A     We were an alternative lending source other  
17    than someone that was -- could not get a conforming loan.

18          Q     Right, and by conforming loans, what you mean,  
19    ma'am, is that those people that credit history was not as  
20    good as some other people, those people that perhaps had  
21    lesser ability to document things such as employment, a  
22    sub-prime lender like Fremont would be more open to doing  
23    business with people that fit in that type of category,  
24    correct?

25          A     Potentially, yes, and the reason I say that is

1 because a lot of -- lot of loans I underwrote, the borrowers  
2 had excellent credit, the property completely conformed,  
3 their debt ratio was in line and they could have chosen to  
4 get a conforming loan but they chose to come to us for some  
5 reason or other, they chose to go to a broker who shopped  
6 below for less.

7 Q Would you agree, ma'am, that the years in  
8 question that we're talking about here, your bank, or  
9 Fremont, the majority of your borrowers fit into the category  
10 of sub-prime borrower?

11 MS. THOMSON: Objection, your Honor, that's  
12 well beyond the scope of direct.

13 THE COURT: Overruled.

14 A I do not evaluate every single loan Fremont  
15 did, so I mean, I can tell you we were a nonconforming  
16 lender, however, in my five years of underwriting for  
17 Fremont, I saw a range of credit quality borrowers.

18 Q You said that your current job, ma'am, is that  
19 you're involved in some type of investigative capacity, is  
20 that right?

21 A Yes.

22 Q How long have you been doing that work?

23 A Since 2008.

24 Q Okay. And so in that you're involved in that  
25 type of capacity that you've been involved in assisting

1 Fremont or the current company, whatever you said, it's  
2 Signature now?

3 A Correct, it's Signature.

4 Q Is Signature really Fremont with another name  
5 or is it a totally different --

6 A They acquired Fremont in June of 2010, all  
7 their assets and liabilities, so yes, they are working their  
8 legacy cases.

9 Q So then because of your investigative capacity  
10 then, you're fully familiar with all of the litigation that's  
11 ongoing involving Fremont and its lending practices, correct?

12 A I'm not hands on with every single, but yes, I  
13 am familiar with majority of them.

14 Q You know what I'm talking about, though,  
15 right, the litigation that I'm talking about?

16 A No, I don't know exactly.

17 Q You know about the litigation where there have  
18 been numerous accusations made against Fremont about its  
19 lending practices and procedures, correct?

20 MR. OLMSTED: Objection, your Honor, witness  
21 has already indicated that she doesn't know what he's talking  
22 about, and again, it's beyond the scope of the direct.

23 THE COURT: Overruled. I think she said she  
24 was aware of these, the litigation that was going on, didn't  
25 you?

1                   THE WITNESS: I have been testifying for the  
2 last couple years on Fremont's cases that pertain to possibly  
3 some cases in that realm.

4                   Q     Yes. Not possibly. In the realm I'm talking  
5 about, isn't that right?

6                   A     Well, I will tell you for a fact all the cases  
7 I have testified, they've been in favor for Fremont.

8                   Q     Okay. But there are -- the litigation that  
9 I'm talking about is ongoing still, correct?

10                  A     If you can be a little bit more specific in  
11 regards to what you're indicating, then I can ...

12                  Q     Now, you said that Fremont had pretty specific  
13 requirements and stipulations that it imposed on its loans,  
14 correct?

15                  A     That is correct.

16                  Q     And you know from your work directly at  
17 Fremont and also because of the litigation that you've been  
18 involved in, that Fremont routinely would waive those  
19 stipulations and conditions, isn't that right?

20                  A     Waive in what way? I mean which --

21                  Q     I'm sorry, go ahead, excuse me.

22                  A     If you could be a little bit more specific.

23                  Q     Yeah, sure, I will. Isn't that in essence  
24 part of some of the lawsuit that have been brought against  
25 Fremont, that in fact its underwriters would routinely waive

1       these requirements that you told the jury about, isn't that  
2       part of the litigation that I'm talking about?

3           A      No.

4           Q      No?

5           A      No.

6           Q      All right. Now you said in answer to one of  
7       the prosecution questions that the costs that are listed on  
8       the HUD-1 forms, that it is important for Fremont to know  
9       about any costs because it could affect the APR, you said  
10      that, right?

11           A     Potentially, yes.

12           Q     Right. And what you mean by that is that  
13      there are certain costs that are written into the loan,  
14      right, correct?

15           A     Correct.

16           Q     And therefore if those costs are written into  
17      the loan, then that would affect the loan amount, correct?

18           A     Potentially, yes.

19           Q     And ultimately affect the APR, correct?

20           A     Correct.

21           Q     You're talking about situations where perhaps  
22      borrowers in addition to borrowing the moneys that they  
23      needed to buy the property would also borrow moneys that they  
24      needed to actually complete the transaction, correct?

25           A     Fremont would need to know that during the

1 underwriting process because it is approved accordingly.

2 Q I understand that but my question is isn't  
3 that a fact that borrowers would, in addition to borrowing  
4 moneys needed to buy the property, would also borrow moneys  
5 needed to complete the transaction, such as moneys to order  
6 title reports and things of that nature?

7 A Well, once again, that information needed to  
8 be forthcoming because in the underwriting process --

9 Q Ma'am, excuse me, you're not answering my  
10 question. My question is this, maybe I'm not being clear and  
11 I apologize. Is it true that borrowers, in addition to  
12 borrowing moneys needed to buy the property itself, would  
13 sometimes borrow additional money to do the other things that  
14 are required as part of the closing such as ordering a title  
15 search or other things like that, is that true?

16 A That is true.

17 Q And if they did borrow moneys that were needed  
18 to complete those other services associated with the real  
19 estate transaction, that would have to be considered by  
20 Fremont in determining the loan and the APR rate, correct?

21 A That is correct.

22 Q Okay. Now, the purpose of the HUD-1 form, as  
23 you understand it, is to alert and let the borrower know  
24 exactly what that loan is costing the borrower, correct?

25 A No, it's for all parties involved and

1 especially the lender as far as where the fees are to be  
2 disbursed. The lender is the one lending the money.

3 Q Got that.

4 A So we send the -- we approve the loan based  
5 off our terms.

6 Q I understand that as well. But here's my  
7 question. Is it true that the purpose of the HUD-1 form is  
8 to let the borrower know what that transaction is costing the  
9 borrower, is that a fair statement?

10 A There's multiple documentation throughout the  
11 loan that the good faith lets the borrower know, the  
12 itemization of amount financed shows the exact fees in  
13 regards to the transaction, the final HUD-1 settlement  
14 statement is the entire transaction, the buyer's side and the  
15 seller's side on where all the funds for this transaction has  
16 gone to.

17 Q The purpose of the HUD-1 is to let the  
18 borrower know all such fees, is that correct?

19 A Sure.

20 Q Now the processes that the people that you  
21 called underwriters who worked at your Fremont, that they  
22 went through in order to decide whether or not to approve a  
23 loan, that's all work that's done by Fremont and its  
24 representatives prior to that point in time that any lawyer  
25 is contacted for purposes of being a settlement agent, isn't

1           that right?

2           A     Put -- yes and no, because in the wholesale  
3        side, once it gets to us, they may have shopped the loan  
4        already and indicated who the closing agent was going to be.

5           Q     Well, my question, ma'am, is this: In terms  
6        of deciding whether someone fit the requirements of Fremont  
7        in a sub-prime capacity, and deciding whether or not to give  
8        that particular loan applicant the loan, that happens before  
9        you contact a lawyer to be a settlement agent, isn't that  
10      true?

11          A     Once again, we may have approved the loan and  
12        the information is given to us after we approve the loan, but  
13        the broker may have decided already who the settlement agent  
14        was.

15          Q     Okay. I'm sorry, I'm just not being clear.  
16        The process of applying for the loan, deciding what the  
17        person's credit is, if you require employment verification,  
18        what history that particular borrower or applicant has,  
19        that's not work that's done by the lawyer you contact to be  
20        the settlement agent, correct?

21          A     That is correct.

22          Q     That work is all done by Fremont prior to that  
23        point in time that you would contact any lawyer to be a  
24        settlement agent, isn't that right?

25          A     It's completed by the broker and Fremont, yes.

1           Q     That would be done prior to even those two  
2     occasions you talked about where Fremont ultimately contacted  
3     Michael Bouchard's office, isn't that right?

4           A     There's a certain amount of information that  
5     is, that he -- the closing is later on in the process.

6           Q     Okay. So Michael Bouchard in the two  
7     instances that you talked about wasn't in any shape or form  
8     involved in deciding whether Haskins who was the borrower in  
9     the two loans that you talked about would be approved or not  
10    approved for that loan, isn't that fair to say?

11          A     Based on the way we approved it, we approved  
12    it a certain way and for funds to be disbursed accordingly.

13          Ult --

14          Q     I'm sorry, you're not understanding me or I'm  
15    not being clear. What I'm asking you is this. Fremont  
16    decided to approve a man by the name of Haskins for two  
17    loans, is that true?

18          A     That is correct.

19          Q     The process involved in approving that man  
20    Haskins for those two loans, that happened before Michael  
21    Bouchard's office was ever contacted, correct?

22          A     Potentially, yes.

23          Q     Well, you tell me if it's different in this  
24    case, I don't want -- I need to know the answer to those  
25    questions.

1           A     Once again, we're a wholesale lender so we  
2 deal with the broker. I don't know for a fact if the broker  
3 contacted him prior. I'm just saying that once we approved  
4 the loan and prior to going to docs, we were informed that  
5 the Bouchard Law Firm was closing this transaction.

6           Q     Okay, let me put it to you this way. Whether  
7 or not any person whatsoever talked to Michael Bouchard about  
8 it before, the fact of the matter is that the process of  
9 approving the loan is done by Fremont, correct?

10          A     Correct.

11          Q     And only Fremont, correct?

12          A     Correct.

13          Q     So if there's any -- if there's a credit  
14 report to be run and looked over, and evaluated, that was  
15 done by Fremont, correct?

16          A     Correct.

17          Q     If there was any employment checking or  
18 employment verification that had to be done, that was done by  
19 Fremont, correct?

20          A     The broker and Fremont, that is true.

21          Q     In terms of deciding the value of the  
22 property, in other words whether the property that was going  
23 to be the subject of that loan transaction would be allowed  
24 as the property to be used for the loan, that's something  
25 that was determined by Fremont, correct?

1           A     The licensed appraiser along with Fremont.

2           Q     An appraiser would be hired but ultimately  
3     that information would be given to Fremont, correct?

4           A     That is correct.

5           Q     And then the underwriter would decide, in the  
6     case involving the two loan transactions that you talked  
7     about involving this man Haskins, would decide if that  
8     property was worth it or not, correct?

9           A     To the best of our ability, we're limited  
10    resources as far as --

11          Q     What does that mean to the best of your  
12    ability? You get an appraisal, you look at it and you decide  
13    should you give a loan for that property or not, isn't that  
14    the way it worked?

15          A     That is true; however, we do a certain amount  
16    of due diligence on our end and we have limited internet  
17    resources. The appraiser has additional resources that the  
18    underwriter does not have. So to the best of our ability,  
19    yes.

20          Q     Okay. What you were shown and you gave  
21    testimony about an Exhibit 17.4B, do you recall that?

22          A     Yes.

23          Q     Okay. And within 17.4B, there's a whole bunch  
24    of documents, correct?

25          A     Correct.

1           Q     And actually you went over some of them in  
2 front of the jury, isn't that right?

3           A     Yes.

4           Q     And one of the documents that's in this 17.4B  
5 is an actual appraisal that was done on the property,  
6 correct?

7           A     No, I didn't review any of the appraisal.

8           Q     Okay, I'm sorry, was there a tax search done?  
9 You said there was certain background checks that are done,  
10 correct?

11          A     That's an internal form, that's -- the tax  
12 search, we didn't review any of the appraisal or appraisal  
13 review documents.

14          Q     Did your underwriter review the tax search?

15          A     I mean we didn't review in court here.

16          Q     Okay.

17          A     There's --

18          Q     But you looked at it when it was put up on the  
19 board there, isn't that right?

20          A     We didn't talk about any -- we talked about a  
21 purchase contract.

22                   MR. CASTILLO: Excuse me, sir.

23          Q     See 17.4B up there, ma'am, you see it, right?

24          A     Yes.

25                   THE COURT: You know what, we'll take a

1       15-minute break at this time, members of the jury.

2                     THE CLERK: Court's in recess.

3                     (Court in recess, 11:04 a.m. to 11:27 a.m.)

4                     (Open Court, Jury Out.)

5                     THE COURT: Bring the jury in, please.

6                     (Jury Present.)

7                     THE COURT: Okay, jury's back, you may  
8 continue, sir.

9                     MR. CASTILLO: Thank you.

10          Q        Ms. Valdez, I'm going to direct your attention  
11         to Exhibit 17.4B and the page up on the board here, can you  
12         see that all right?

13          A        I do.

14          Q        And you said that this was a document that's  
15         contained in a file kept by Fremont, correct?

16          A        Correct. That's part of the preliminary title  
17         report that was provided to us from the title company.

18          Q        Okay. And so this document that has at the  
19         top heading Superior Data Services, Inc., this is a document  
20         that would have been used by your underwriter in determining  
21         whether or not to approve the loan, is that correct?

22          A        It's -- it's part of the document that we  
23         evaluate of the title report and this document tells us  
24         whether the taxes need to be paid or not.

25          Q        But this is the document that you would look

1 at as part of the approval process, is that fair to say?

2 A Sure.

3 Q Okay. And you said that this document will  
4 tell you -- give you some information such as whether or not  
5 the taxes are paid or not, correct?

6 A Correct.

7 Q This document as part of Government  
8 Exhibit 17.4B also gives you other information, correct?

9 A That is true.

10 Q And it gives you the value that's been  
11 assessed on the property by the city that this property is  
12 located in, correct?

13 A Correct.

14 Q And the assessed value, the total assessed  
15 value by the city in this particular case involving the  
16 property known as 147 Fifth Avenue in Troy, New York, what's  
17 the total?

18 A You have to take into consideration --

19 Q Ma'am, what's the total that's reflected on  
20 the document?

21 A 21,000?

22 Q Yeah, what's that number?

23 A This is -- well, you have to take into  
24 consideration ---

25 Q Ma'am, I'm sorry, you're not answering my

1 question.

2 A -- this was in 1986.

3 Q Excuse me, I apologize. Here's my question.

4 On this document that's part of 17.4B, which is a document  
5 that you said was in Fremont's file, correct?

6 A Correct.

7 Q Which is a document that was utilized by your  
8 underwriter in deciding what to do with respect to this  
9 applicant Haskins, right, yes?

10 A Not pertaining to the value, but yes.

11 Q Oh, not pertaining to the value?

12 A Of the property.

13 Q Is that what you're going to say now?

14 A This document is not used in regards to the  
15 value of the property.

16 Q Okay, ma'am, does this document that's part of  
17 your file, that's part of Government Exhibit 17.4B, have  
18 within it information regarding the valuation that's been  
19 given to this property by the city of Troy where this  
20 property's located, yes or no?

21 A Yes.

22 Q And the value that the city of Troy has  
23 assessed on this particular property is \$21,870, correct?

24 A That -- based off that information there, yes.

25 Q Well, do you have a doubt, is that what it

1 says or no?

2 A It does state that.

3 Q And the loan that Fremont approved in  
4 connection with this loan applicant Haskins in relation to  
5 the property known as 147 Fifth Avenue, city of Troy, was how  
6 much?

7 A I can't -- we did two loans. I can't remember  
8 which one. One's against --

9 Q In the area of 110,000, does that sound right  
10 to you?

11 A That was the purchase price. But this value  
12 is assessed based off --

13 Q Ma'am, you're answering a question I haven't  
14 asked yet. I'm sorry. Are you about to tell us that the  
15 value that's reflected on this document as part of  
16 Exhibit 17.4B is unimportant, is that what you're gonna say?

17 A It may not be accurate as of the date of  
18 underwriting.

19 Q May not be accurate as of the date of what?

20 A Underwriting.

21 Q Underwriting. Oh. Well, what's the date of  
22 the document?

23 THE COURT: Date of underwriting? That's the  
24 same date.

25 A No, what you have to take into

1 consideration --

2 Q No, ma'am, what's the date of the  
3 underwriting?

4 A I'd have to look at the file to determine.

5 Q Do you have that?

6 A It was in 2005.

7 Q Do you have that with you?

8 A No, I don't have the file with me.

9 Q Do you have that?

10 THE COURT: Do you need Exhibit 17.4B? Would  
11 it be in there?

12 THE WITNESS: It would --

13 THE COURT: I can give you the exhibit if you  
14 want to take a look at it. Refresh your recollection.

15 MS. THOMSON: Judge, I have a copy available,  
16 if I could approach the witness with a copy.

17 THE COURT: Okay.

18 A See, this one doesn't have the underwriting.

19 THE COURT: The question before you is this:  
20 What is the date of the underwriting of this loan? Correct?

21 MR. CASTILLO: Yes.

22 A The date of the underwriting of this loan is I  
23 believe in March or April of 2005.

24 Q This document that's on the board that's part  
25 of Exhibit 17.4B, is this a document that would have been

1       ordered by a representative of Fremont in connection with  
2       this loan application by Brian Haskins?

3           A     No, it was ordered by the broker.

4           Q     Okay. And can you tell us the date of this  
5       document?

6           A     This document is January 31st, 2005.

7           Q     Okay. And do you know when this loan closed  
8       or when it was approved, how about that?

9           A     March or April of 2005.

10          Q     So short in time to the date of this document  
11       that's reflected on the board that's part of 17.4B, correct?

12          A     But close.

13          Q     Ma'am, is this close in time to that date?

14          A     The preliminary title report is, yes, within  
15       90 days, however, this --

16          Q     Are you telling me that you are questioning  
17       the accuracy of that information on that document?

18          A     May I explain?

19          Q     No, I want you to answer my question.

20          A     The value is not accurate as of this date.

21          Q     Okay. What's the correct value?

22          A     I don't know because they only reassess when  
23       the value is repurchased and this original property was a  
24       purchase back in '86, 1986.

25          Q     Okay. But this document is dated 2005?

1           A     That is correct.

2           Q     So therefore it refers to information that's  
3 relevant to the year 2005, right?

4           A     That is incorrect.

5           Q     That's incorrect?

6           A     Yes.

7           Q     Okay. So then this is a document that really  
8 has no relevance, right?

9           A     This has relevance pertaining to the property  
10 taxes that need to be paid on the property.

11          Q     So the information about the valuation, the  
12 assessed valuation by the city, the government where this  
13 property is located, you're saying is totally irrelevant, is  
14 that right?

15          A     Properties are not --

16          Q     Ma'am, is that -- you're saying it's totally  
17 irrelevant, is that what you're saying?

18          A     I'm just saying that particular piece of this  
19 information is not accurate as of this point.

20          Q     And you're saying that it's not relevant and  
21 not considered by your underwriter, is that right?

22          A     Oh, it's reviewed.

23          Q     Okay. Now by the way, you twice said in  
24 response to a question by the prosecutor that the legal fees  
25 of \$500 that were paid to Mr. Bouchard's law office, \$500

1 payments, you recall the questions about that?

2 A Yes.

3 Q And you said that those fees were paid out of  
4 the loan funds; you recall that question and that answer?

5 A I do. Yes.

6 Q Okay. Now, the procedure, the process when a  
7 bank or a lender such as Fremont hires a lawyer to handle the  
8 transaction is that Fremont never pays the legal fees,  
9 correct?

10 A Fremont does not hire in a wholesale  
11 environment, it's -- we are given that information by the  
12 broker.

13 Q Okay. And this particular case, for purposes  
14 of these two transactions that you just talked about, did you  
15 hire Michael Bouchard's office as a lawyer?

16 A Fremont did not.

17 Q Okay. So they weren't representing you then,  
18 is that it?

19 A They were to follow the lending instructions  
20 according the --

21 Q Ma'am, that's not what I'm asking you. Do you  
22 understand my question? I'm sorry to interrupt you. Was the  
23 Michael Bouchard Law Firm representing Fremont in connection  
24 with these two loan transactions that you just testified to,  
25 yes or no?

1           A     They were representing all parties involved.

2           Q     Ma'am, were they representing Fremont, was the  
3 law office of Michael Bouchard representing Fremont, your  
4 company, in connection with these two loan transactions  
5 involving Haskins that you just testified to, yes or no?

6           A     Pertaining to this transaction, yes.

7           Q     Of course pertaining to this transaction,  
8 that's what I'm talking about, these transactions, so you're  
9 saying he did represent your company?

10          A     All parties involved, yes, he did.

11          Q     Does that mean he represented Fremont, yes or  
12 no? Because that's what I'm asking you, I'm not asking you  
13 about any party other than --

14          A     Yes.

15          Q     -- Fremont.

16          A     Yes.

17          Q     Did the law office of Michael Bouchard  
18 represent you, Fremont, in these two transactions?

19          A     In the -- yes, he did.

20          Q     Okay. But the procedure is that the borrower  
21 has to pay the lawyer who is representing your company  
22 Fremont, isn't that right?

23          A     Once again, he's representing all parties  
24 involved. He's representing this transaction.

25          Q     Okay. Are you done with your answer?

1           A     Yes.

2           Q     Okay. Now here's my question. The process is  
3     that the legal fee is not paid by Fremont, isn't that  
4     correct?

5           A     Correct.

6           Q     The legal fee is paid by the borrower, isn't  
7     that right?

8           A     Out of the proceeds that --

9           Q     It doesn't matter where the money comes from.

10          A     Yes, that is correct.

11          Q     The legal fee is paid by the borrower, is that  
12     correct?

13          A     Correct.

14          Q     Whether the borrower takes the money out of  
15     his or her pocket or as part of the transaction borrows  
16     enough money to pay whatever the costs are, the fees are paid  
17     by the borrower, correct?

18          A     Technically, yes.

19          Q     Not technically, actually. You're not sending  
20     any tax document to the Bouchard Law Firm indicating that you  
21     paid his office a legal fee, correct?

22          A     That is correct.

23          Q     So the legal fee is paid by the borrower,  
24     correct?

25          A     Correct.

1           Q     Now I assume, I know you said something about  
2 having limited internet access in the course of your  
3 testimony. But Fremont certainly has computers, correct?

4           A     Yes.

5           Q     And Fremont certainly keeps track of all  
6 borrowers that borrow money from Fremont, correct?

7           A     Correct.

8           Q     And in the event that a borrower who has been  
9 approved for a loan and then given a loan applies again to  
10 your same company for another loan, that would be information  
11 that would be on your computer, correct?

12          A     Correct.

13          Q     So in the case of Brian Haskins who within a  
14 short period of time applies for two loans, that would be  
15 information that would be in your computers, correct?

16          A     Yes.

17          Q     And by the way, the two loans, as far as  
18 Fremont was concerned, that Brian Haskins applied for, was  
19 for the higher prices of the higher contract that you  
20 approved him for, correct?

21          A     Yes.

22          Q     One was a contract for like 110,000, correct?

23          A     One was I believe 110, the other one was  
24 88,000, I think -- no?

25          Q     So your company determined that he was fit and

1 appropriate to lend him loans to satisfy those two  
2 transactions, correct?

3 A Based on the terms with him coming in with  
4 funds to close.

5 Q Regardless, your company made that approval  
6 decision, correct?

7 A Sure.

8 Q And I assume that when a borrower has  
9 indicated to your company that the borrower has a certain  
10 amount of money to bring to the closing, that you take steps  
11 to investigate that information, correct?

12 A That is taken into consideration, yes.

13 Q You do more than take it into consideration.  
14 If a buyer needs to bring for example \$17,000, to a closing,  
15 you will want information to show that the borrower has that  
16 money, isn't that right?

17 A We require receipt from the closing agent.

18 Q Even before, the closing agent works at the  
19 closing, I'm talking about before, when you're deciding  
20 whether to approve, you will take steps to make sure that  
21 that buyer indeed has, if he needs 17,000 to bring to the  
22 closing, you're going to take steps to make sure that he  
23 indeed has that \$17,000, correct?

24 A It's indicated within the loan file.

25 Q What does that mean? You take steps to figure

1 out whether the person has the money, isn't that right?  
2 Ma'am, do you do that or not? If you can't say yes or no,  
3 just tell me.

4 A Yes and no.

5 Q Okay. Do you like, for example, ask to see  
6 the person's bank records to see if he or she has on deposit  
7 that amount of money?

8 A In some cases, yes.

9 Q You look for tax returns to show that the  
10 person would indeed have the ability to come up with that  
11 money, do you do stuff like that?

12 A Yes and no.

13 Q Oh, yes and no. Okay. I guess when you're in  
14 the sub-prime stuff, that's when you don't bother to look for  
15 things like that, is that it?

16 A Not in all cases, absolutely not.

17 Q Now you said, Ms. Valdez, that if you had  
18 become aware of a contract reflecting a different price, a  
19 lower price, than what your approval was based upon, that  
20 that would be information that would be relevant to your  
21 company, correct?

22 A That is correct.

23 Q That would be information that would cause  
24 some person at your company to pause and start to look at  
25 things a little bit more carefully or look at things again,

1       is that fair to say?

2           A     That is fair to say.

3           Q     Because as you said in your testimony, if a  
4       contract for a lower price -- let me withdraw that. A  
5       contract for a lower price might suggest that the property  
6       value is lower, right?

7           A     That's definitely a red flag, correct.

8                   MR. CASTILLO: I'm going to need a moment to  
9       find an exhibit, okay?

10                  THE COURT: Sure. What's going on, as she's  
11       typing, taking down the transcript, it's being brought up to  
12       me and I'm making notes about things that I can go back and  
13       check, and all of a sudden nothing was coming out. Is your  
14       company located in California now?

15                  THE WITNESS: Yes.

16                   (A discussion was held off the record.)

17                  THE COURT: You got it?

18                  MR. CASTILLO: Yeah, but I'm going to have to  
19       have it marked, Judge.

20                  THE COURT: Okay. It's exhibit what number?

21                  THE CLERK: AA40.

22                  THE COURT: AA40? Okay.

23                  MR. CASTILLO: May I approach the witness,  
24       Judge.

25                  THE COURT: Sure.

1           Q     Ms. Valdez, I'm going to hand you what's  
2 marked for identification as Defense Exhibit AA40. Now could  
3 you identify that document for the record, please.

4           A     This is -- appears to be, it's from Superior  
5 Data Services, and it's for the property 1 Sheridan Avenue  
6 and it appears to be identical to the document we have in our  
7 preliminary title report from the title company showing the  
8 property taxes, whether they're paid or open, and certain  
9 assessed values also.

10          Q     All right. Thank you. And does that relate  
11 to 1 Sheridan Avenue?

12          A     Yes, it does.

13          Q     And to the borrower, Brian Haskins?

14          A     That is correct.

15          Q     One of the two transactions you've testified  
16 about?

17          A     Yes.

18           MR. CASTILLO: I'm going to offer it, Judge.

19           THE COURT: Any objection?

20           MS. THOMSON: No, your Honor, but for  
21 completeness, I would ask that the entire exhibit be  
22 introduced.

23           THE COURT: Well, you could, if it's relevant,  
24 you can put it in when you want or you can put it in now.  
25 It's your call.

1                   MR. CASTILLO: Okay.

2                   Q     So Ms. Valdez, the assessed value by the city  
3     of Troy in connection with this property, 1 Sheridan Avenue,  
4     that your company approved the loan for, do you recollect  
5     what it is?

6                   A     Mm-hmm.

7                   Q     What is it?

8                   A     The -- 12,000.

9                   Q     Yeah, \$12,790, correct?

10                  A     Correct.

11                  Q     And this was a document that was in your  
12 underwriting file, correct?

13                  A     I'd have to go --

14                  Q     Well, you just said that a minute ago.

15                  A     Our document indicated a different amount.

16                  Q     This is for 1 Sheraton?

17                  A     Oh, that's 147, this is the other property,  
18 got it, okay.

19                  Q     This was in your underwriting file, correct?

20                  A     That's correct.

21                  Q     In connection with Mr. Haskins' loan  
22 application for the purchase of 1 Sheridan Avenue, correct?

23                  A     Yes.

24                  Q     And you already said that your company  
25 approved the loan for what amount for that property?

1           A     Let's see. 76,500 was that one.

2           Q     All right. Ms. Valdez, with respect to the 1  
3 Sheridan Avenue property, I just wanted there to be no  
4 question, the loan that was approved by your company was what  
5 amount?

6           A     76,500.

7           Q     Okay. And the document that I showed you a  
8 minute ago, Exhibit AA40, document that was issued by  
9 Superior Data Services, shows an assessed value by the city  
10 of Troy in the amount of 7 -- \$12,790, correct?

11          A     Yes.

12                MR. CASTILLO: Judge, I'm going to need a  
13 moment.

14          Q     Ms. Valdez, you said that as part of your loan  
15 procedures, that you would require a preliminary HUD form to  
16 be sent to your company, correct?

17          A     Yes.

18          Q     And upon receipt of that preliminary HUD form,  
19 and a review by someone in your company, then you would issue  
20 the green light so to speak, to allow that transaction to go  
21 forward, is that fair to say?

22          A     To draw the docs, correct.

23          Q     And then at the end, once the transaction is  
24 completed, once there has actually been a real estate  
25 closing, you will then require that certain documents be

1 transmitted to your company, correct?

2 A Yes.

3 Q Including a HUD document, correct?

4 A The final HUD-1s, correct.

5 Q And were there final HUDs provided to your  
6 company in connection with these two loans that we've just  
7 talked about, involving Mr. Haskins?

8 A Yes, they were.

9 Q You've had an opportunity to review those?

10 A Yes.

11 Q Did you review them in preparation for your  
12 testimony?

13 A I did.

14 Q You don't have a file with you that you're  
15 looking at, correct?

16 A The entire file?

17 Q Well, let's talk about in connection with the  
18 loan application in the closing that happened with respect to  
19 Mr. Haskins and the property known as 147 Fifth Avenue, Troy,  
20 New York.

21 A Okay.

22 Q Do you have those documents?

23 A I have the preliminary title report section.

24 Q Is there a --

25 A The final HUD-1.

1 Q You have the HUD-1?

2 A Yes, I do.

3 Q Would you just let me see the HUD-1 that you  
4 have.

5 May I approach the witness, Judge?

6 A Here's this one.

7 Q Okay. Do you have more than one HUD-1 in your  
8 file?

9 A I do.

10 Q May I see the other one, please.

11 A That's the ...

12 Q You only have --

13 A The first page and the signed second page.

14 Q Okay. In your preparation for your testimony  
15 and your review of your file, did you become aware of the  
16 existence of two separate HUDs for this transaction, the Troy  
17 address, 41 -- 147 Fifth Avenue, Troy, New York?

18 A No. I mean other than the not -- the one  
19 that's not signed, and then the signed one.

20 Q Is the nonsigned one the one that was received  
21 by your company preliminarily before the closing?

22 A I would assume so.

23 Q Give these back to you. In connection with  
24 your preparation for your testimony here today, with respect  
25 to this transaction involving Brian Haskins, specifically at

1       a property known as 147 Fifth Avenue, Troy, New York, did you  
2       become aware of whether or not there was more than one HUD-1  
3       form prepared for that transaction, yes or no?

4           A     No.

5                   MR. CASTILLO: Those are all the questions I  
6       have, thank you.

7                   THE COURT: Okay. Redirect?

8                   MS. THOMSON: Yes, your Honor.

9                   REDIRECT EXAMINATION BY MS. THOMSON:

10          Q      You were asked some questions about whether  
11       the HUD-1 was done for the benefit of the buyer. What is the  
12       single most important document to Fremont to make sure that  
13       their money is disbursed according to their instructions?

14          A      The final HUD-1 settlement signed by all  
15       parties.

16          Q      Who is responsible for making sure that the  
17       funds are distributed according to that HUD-1?

18          A      The closing agent.

19          Q      You were asked to look at some documents, both  
20       titled Superior Data Services and we don't need to put them  
21       up on the board, I just have a follow-up question for you.  
22       The totals that you were shown, one was for \$21,870, and one  
23       was for \$12,790; would you like to explain the relevance of  
24       those numbers to Fremont and what you understand them to be?

25          A      Sure. The assessed value that the title

1 company in -- or gives us, is, it could have been assessed 20  
2 years ago when someone purchased the property, they're not  
3 going to reassess it every time unless there's been major  
4 improvements to the property, then they'll get permits and  
5 reassess the property itself. I believe at least one of  
6 these transactions, the borrower was on the title since 1986  
7 so it could have been the assessed value way back then.

8 Q So does the assessed value indicate what the  
9 current value is?

10 A Absolutely not.

11 Q When considering the value, does Fremont  
12 obtain an appraisal?

13 A Yes.

14 Q You were asked questions about the legal fees  
15 and where they came from. The legal fees for this closing,  
16 did they come out of the mortgage proceeds that Fremont  
17 deposited into the escrow account of Michael Bouchard?

18 A Yes, they did.

19 Q And you were asked just now about your  
20 knowledge about the HUD-1 for these properties; was Fremont  
21 only provided one HUD-1?

22 A They were provided a preliminary one and a  
23 final one.

24 MS. THOMSON: Thank you.

25 THE COURT: Anything further?

1                   MR. CASTILLO: Just a couple questions.

2                   RECROSS-EXAMINATION BY MR. CASTILLO:

3                   Q     Tell me if you know whether the city of Troy,  
4 New York is a full assessed value city.

5                   A     I do not know.

6                   Q     And tell me if you know when the city of Troy  
7 updates its assessments on its property.

8                   A     I do not know that information.

9                   Q     If I told you that they do it every three  
10 years, would you have information to contradict that?

11                  A     No, I would not.

12                  Q     And is it your testimony, ma'am, that your  
13 company, when it's determining whether to approve a loan or  
14 not, just simply does not look at the assessed value that the  
15 municipality where the property is located in, that the  
16 assessed value that the municipality has given to that  
17 property, you don't even consider it, is that your testimony?

18                  A     In my 23 years of lending --

19                  Q     Ma'am, my question is do you consider that,  
20 yes or no?

21                  A     It is reviewed, but for actual value at the  
22 time of the loan, it is not considered.

23                  Q     So it's reviewed?

24                  A     Correct.

25                  Q     Why do you look at it?

1           A     Because we review all documents in the file.

2           Q     And you said that the most important document,  
3 I think that's the question it was, as far as Fremont is  
4 concerned, is the HUD-1, correct?

5           A     That is an important document because it's the  
6 final accounting of the entire transaction.

7           Q     Okay. So let's talk about important  
8 documents, even before the final transaction, are things like  
9 reports of information that tell you about the  
10 creditworthiness of the loan applicant, correct?

11           MS. THOMSON: Objection, your Honor, that's  
12 beyond the scope of my redirect.

13           THE COURT: I think it goes into what are the  
14 important documents. You opened that door, so he can  
15 certainly ask a question about those.

16           A     All documents in the loan file provided by all  
17 parties.

18           Q     Ma'am, right now I'm talking about the  
19 creditworthiness of the loan applicant. Is that a very  
20 important document?

21           A     It's all important.

22           Q     Before you allow a loan to be approved, you  
23 have to look at some information pertaining to the loan  
24 applicant, correct?

25           A     That is correct.

1           Q     You never get to the point of having to get a  
2     HUD form after a closing if you don't ever approve the loan,  
3     correct?    Correct?

4           A     We -- it's a --

5           Q     Ma'am, my question is real simple. You'll  
6     never get a HUD document if there's never a closing, right?

7           A     That is correct.

8           Q     Correct? So therefore there's a whole lot of  
9     important documents that have to be received and reviewed by  
10    your company before ever a HUD document would be prepared,  
11    isn't that right?

12          A     It's -- they're all important.

13          Q     Okay. So I guess that HUD-1 document that you  
14    just said was the most important document, when you said that  
15    then you didn't mean that, is that it?

16          A     It's the final most important document in the  
17    entire transaction.

18          Q     Excuse me. Are you done?

19          A     Yes.

20          Q     But you have to approve the loan first, right?

21          A     That is correct.

22           MR. CASTILLO: That's all I have, Judge.

23           THE COURT: Okay. You're all set. Thank you.

24           (Whereupon the witness was excused.)

25           MR. OLMSTED: The government calls Kelly

1                   Monahan.

2                   THE CLERK: Good afternoon, sir. If you can  
3                   please state and spell your full name for the record.

4                   THE WITNESS: Kelly Monahan. K-e-l-l-y,  
5                   M-o-n-a-h-a-n.

6                   THE CLERK: Please raise your right hand.

7  
8                   K E L L Y   M O N A H A N , called as a  
9                   witness and being duly sworn, testifies as follows:

10                  DIRECT EXAMINATION BY MR. OLMSTED:

11                  Q      Good afternoon, Mr. Monahan.

12                  A      Hello.

13                  Q      Could you introduce yourself to the jury, who  
14                  you are and where you live.

15                  A      My name's Kelly Monahan, I live in California,  
16                  Irvine, California.

17                  Q      And what's your occupation?

18                  A      I'm semi-retired currently.

19                  Q      Prior to your retirement, what did you do?

20                  A      I did various things. I worked at an  
21                  accounting firm, I worked for a real estate developer, and I  
22                  also was on the management team of BNC Mortgage.

23                  Q      Were you ever an employee of Lehman Brothers  
24                  Bank?

25                  A      Yes.

1           Q     What was your position there?

2           A     Lehman Brothers Bank owned BNC Mortgage, so I  
3     was the CEO at BNC Mortgage but I also was a dual employee so  
4     I was a vice president of the bank because we had to sign  
5     documents as BNC Mortgage and then other documents as Lehman  
6     Brothers Bank.

7           Q     All right. Like to show you a document that's  
8     been admitted into evidence already as Exhibit 1.2. Ask if  
9     you can look at that exhibit and identify it to the grand --  
10    to the jury. Particularly the last page.

11          A     It's showing that Lehman Brothers Bank is a  
12    federally insured bank.

13          Q     Is and was Lehman Brothers Bank a federally  
14    insured bank while you were working there?

15          A     Yes.

16          Q     And what does that mean, that it's a federally  
17    insured bank?

18          A     What it means to me is that your deposits are  
19    federally insured, but also any losses that the bank would  
20    incur would be -- they're not insured, but they would be  
21    losses potentially of the government.

22          Q     But the deposits are insured by the Federal  
23    Deposit Insurance Corporation?

24          A     Yes.

25          Q     All right. And you say you also worked for

1       BNC. Can you describe to the jury a little bit about your  
2 career at BNC; what did you do there?

3           A     Yes. I was one of the founding members in  
4 1995. I'll give you kind of abbreviated history. In 1997 --  
5 1998 we became a publicly traded company, I was the CFO,  
6 during that period of time. In the year 2000, I decided to  
7 lead part of the management team to buy out the publicly  
8 traded company so we'd go private again, and I did that  
9 with -- and then I partnered with Lehman Brothers as my  
10 financial partner so we bought out the public. I became the  
11 CEO and I ran the company until I left in 2006.

12           Q     And were -- with respect to BNC, from 2002  
13 through 2007, did BNC offer mortgages?

14           A     Yes.

15           Q     Would you describe to the jury how the  
16 mortgages that are obtained through BNC affect Lehman  
17 Brothers Bank, and whose money is used to fund the mortgages  
18 provided by BNC?

19           A     Okay. BNC Mortgage did not have the capital,  
20 you know, at the peak, we were producing or originating  
21 approximately a billion dollars a month in loans, and we  
22 didn't have the capital for that as most mortgage -- all  
23 mortgage companies really don't except for major banks, so we  
24 go get what's called a warehouse line of credit. And Lehman  
25 Brothers provided pretty much an unlimited warehouse line of

1 credit. So when we funded loans, we were using their funds.

2 Q And after you funded the loans, did Lehman  
3 Brothers assume many of them or purchase many of them?

4 A Yes, they purchased many of them.

5 Q And if the loans are fraudulent, who loses the  
6 money, which, BNC or Lehman Brothers?

7 A You mean who would have the loss?

8 Q Yes.

9 A It could be three different parties. First  
10 could be BNC Mortgage because if the borrowers don't make the  
11 payments we may have to buy the loans back. Could also be  
12 Lehman Brothers because of one or two things. If they're  
13 holding them on the books and the loans are worthless, then  
14 they'll take the loss, but it also could be another -- if  
15 they securitize the loans, it also could be the security  
16 holder.

17 Q I'd like to take -- ask you to take the jury a  
18 little bit through the loan process that BNC had. Now was  
19 BNC a wholesale or a retail mortgage lender?

20 A We were wholesale mortgage lender.

21 Q And what is the difference in -- from BNC's  
22 perspective?

23 A Retail means that you go to your bank, you  
24 apply for a loan, and you go through the loan process with  
25 your bank or directly to a mortgage bank. Wholesale would be

1       when the borrower goes to a loan broker, or mortgage broker,  
2       and the broker gathers all your information, your income  
3       documentation, your application, your purchase to buy the  
4       property, and then decides who, which, if they're dealing  
5       with many mortgage bankers or banks and they decide where  
6       would you fit and so that's what happened with us. We, BNC  
7       Mortgage would get the vast majority of our loans through  
8       brokers.

9                     Q       You, in preparation for your testimony today,  
10      you have reviewed a variety of loan files, is that correct?  
11      Not loan files, loan documents.

12                  A       Yeah.

13                  Q       And in those, were those obtained through the  
14      brokers?

15                  A       Yes.

16                  Q       Okay. Starting at the beginning of a loan  
17      transaction, when someone wants to buy a house, can you just  
18      explain to the jury kind of from the BNC perspective what  
19      happens when a person -- or wants to buy in this case a  
20      multi-family home, say a two-family home for investment  
21      purpose.

22                  A       I mean basically you find your home, and you  
23      have a real estate broker, so you start negotiating the  
24      price, and you can also, so you could either at that point go  
25      to your mortgage lender, or you could go after you've made

1       your agreement to purchase the home. And then you have to  
2       apply for the loan, you have to provide income documentation.  
3       Back when -- at this period of time there was actually, some  
4       loans were stated income documentation and some were full  
5       income documentation. Then you -- that's really when you  
6       start everything, and then in our case, the broker would then  
7       get an appraisal on the property, so now you know what it's  
8       worth, you have your income documentation that the lender is  
9       looking at, they have the credit history to the borrower so  
10      they've pulled the credit report and that's when it really,  
11      kind of a preliminary determination is made of how much, you  
12      know, what kind of loan you qualify for. You know, it could  
13      be a loan program, it also would be what -- LTV, so loan to  
14      value, which would be, let's say it's \$100,000 house and you  
15      have bad credit, you may only qualify for a \$50,000 loan so  
16      you're going to have to have a rather large down payment, but  
17      if you have really good credit, you may qualify for a \$90,000  
18      loan on that \$100,000 property.

19                   So you go through that whole process really,  
20       with your broker, determining who's going to be your lender  
21       and what you qualify for.

22                   Q       And when the application comes to BNC, what  
23       does BNC -- they look to the creditworthiness of the  
24       borrower?

25                   A       It's not just the application, it's the whole

1       loan file so the brokers will have gathered all the  
2       information including the appraisal.

3           Q     Once the loan file -- what then does BNC do  
4       when they have the whole loan file?

5           A     We go through, has to go through various  
6       departments and it's all simultaneously -- simultaneous,  
7       sorry. It would go through the underwriting department which  
8       would look at the creditworthiness of the borrower, it would  
9       look at the income documentation, it would go through the  
10      appraisal department. The broker provides an appraisal so  
11      then what BNC Mortgage would do is we would review that  
12      appraisal and that's really -- that gets you 90 percent  
13      there, prior to closing.

14           Q     Then what happens?

15           A     And prior to closing you may have 50  
16       conditions that need to be met so there's lots of other  
17       things that we're asking for. Pardon me?

18           Q     Okay. And so once you've decided to go  
19       forward with the loan, then what happens?

20           A     Then it's really between the lender and the  
21       broker who they're using for the closing agent so what's  
22       prepared is, there's -- there's some documents that come from  
23       funding of the requirements for the closing and then there's  
24       also closing instructions that go from our loan doc.  
25       department which is really your more standard, standard

1       conditions and all those conditions, so that's sent to the  
2       closing agent --

3           Q     How does the closing agent get selected, does  
4       BNC select the closing agent?

5           A     No, it was really between the broker and BNC.

6           Q     All right.

7           A     We had a list that was an exclusionary list,  
8       who we wouldn't use so if they weren't on that, and we did a  
9       very quick background check, then we would most likely  
10      approve the person.

11          Q     And in the files that you're going to be  
12      testifying about today --

13           THE COURT: One more time, just, the closing  
14      agent then is approved by who, the broker and --

15           THE WITNESS: Well, it's suggested by the  
16      broker then it would be -- yes, it would be approved by BNC  
17      Mortgage.

18           THE COURT: But there's a recommendation from  
19      the broker?

20           THE WITNESS: Yes.

21           THE COURT: Okay.

22          Q     What do you expect then from the attorney who  
23      serves as your closing agent?

24          A     Basically to follow the closing instructions  
25      because it has various requirements and if those requirements

1 aren't met, then the loan shouldn't be closed.

2 Q All right. Once you've identified the  
3 settlement attorney and approved the loan, what is a  
4 preliminary HUD-1? Can you describe the role that a  
5 preliminary HUD-1 has in that context?

6 A Well, HUD-1 basically describes the  
7 transaction from the borrower's point of view and from the  
8 seller's point of view. So it's basically showing on the  
9 borrower's side the loan that they have, the proceeds from  
10 the loan, all the various expenses, and then the end result  
11 will be how much money do they need to bring to the table  
12 which is -- that's typically what we call their down payment.

13 And on the other side, it has the seller, the  
14 seller's side will have the proceeds that are coming in from  
15 the sale, what -- they probably have a loan on the property  
16 so what they have to pay off on the loan and then various  
17 fees and then the ending result for the seller would be what  
18 profit or -- it would be profit, what profit they would have  
19 from the loan.

20 Q Do you send instructions to the closing agent  
21 on how to handle a closing?

22 A Yes.

23 Q All right. I'd like to show you a document  
24 that's already admitted into evidence as Government  
25 Exhibit 7.9. If it could be shown to the jury at this time,

1 published to the jury. Can you identify this document?

2 A Yes, this is the closing instructions.

3 Q And who's it sent from?

4 A BNC Mortgage. It's from the loan doc.

5 department.

6 Q And who's it sent to?

7 A In this case, it's to the Bouchard Law Firm,  
8 which I believe is the closing agent.

9 Q And does it identify the property for which  
10 these are instructions?

11 A Yes.

12 Q What's the address of the property?

13 A 735 Burden Avenue, Troy, New York.

14 Q And when is this -- does it have a date in the  
15 top right-hand corner?

16 A March 8th, 2005.

17 Q All right. Can you describe -- we'll get to  
18 the language of the document in a moment. Can you just tell  
19 the jury what this document is intended to do?

20 A It's basically telling the closing agent what  
21 the requirements are to close this loan.

22 Q And could you read the first paragraph which  
23 begins, "Do not."

24 A "Do not close or fund this loan unless all  
25 conditions in these closing instructions and any supplemental

1 closing instructions have been satisfied. The total  
2 consideration in this transaction except for our loan  
3 proceeds and approved secondary financing must pass to you in  
4 the form of cash."

5 Q Why is that important?

6 A The cash or the whole --

7 Q Yes, either -- either sentence, both  
8 sentences.

9 A Oh, well, because we have approved a loan, we  
10 need to sell the loan after we've approved it and funded it  
11 and if it doesn't meet our guidelines which everything in  
12 here is, all these requirements make it, you know, help it  
13 meet our guidelines and if that doesn't happen, then we will  
14 have an unsellable loan and therefore, a loss.

15 Q And why should all of the money other than the  
16 loan proceeds be brought in cash?

17 A That's the only thing we'd accept.

18 Q Why?

19 A Because -- well, number one, well, it's kind  
20 of -- it's definitely related. We required, we require a  
21 down payment, unless the loan is 100 percent loan-to-value  
22 loan, and has to be cash and the reason why is you really  
23 want the borrower, to use more a buzz word, you want them to  
24 have skin in the game because typically 100 percent loan has  
25 to be a perfect borrower or they're not gonna make their

1 payments, and if someone doesn't have skin in the game,  
2 they're probably not gonna make their payments either on a  
3 timely basis which makes the loan worth less than it would be  
4 otherwise.

5 Q Now I just want to ask you to explain to the  
6 jury kind of a term of art in there. You used the term cash  
7 in this document or BNC uses the term cash. Would a  
8 cashier's check of collected funds qualify as cash?

9 A Yes.

10 Q So it doesn't mean currency, it just means  
11 collected funds cash?

12 A Yes, some people do provide cash --

13 Q Currency?

14 A -- also, mm-hmm.

15 Q But you would accept a cashier's check?

16 A Absolutely.

17 Q The next sentence in that paragraph?

18 A Oh, beyond where I read?

19 Q Yes, past the word cash.

20 A Sorry. "All proceeds must be disbursed upon  
21 closing unless you have received specific written  
22 authorization to the contrary from us. Do not close or fund  
23 this loan if you have knowledge of a concurrent or subsequent  
24 transaction which would transfer the subject property."

25 Q And why, why is that?

1                   A     Well, definitely the concurrent transaction  
2 would be that someone's getting a second mortgage on the  
3 property. So let's say we're requiring a \$20,000 down  
4 payment and we don't -- and we would not have approved that  
5 loan unless they came in with cash. They may be going and  
6 getting a second mortgage on that property and getting their  
7 cash back and yet they wouldn't have qualified because of  
8 their credit history or their worthiness, so we would -- we  
9 would not make that loan in that situation so that's why  
10 that's really -- that's why that language is there.

11                  Q     All right. I'd like you to turn to the next  
12 page of the document. What is that? What is that document?

13                  A     Well, the first document was the general  
14 closing instructions which will be very typical on any loan  
15 you see, probably even one that you would make today. The  
16 second, the second document, I'll call it second document is  
17 the specific closing instructions. So this is for this, this  
18 loan in particular, I don't know if you want me to go down  
19 the page.

20                  Q     Yeah.

21                  A     But like for example, it shows which loan  
22 documents are required for this loan. For example,  
23 condominium rider is not checked off because this wasn't a  
24 condominium but if it was a condominium, it would have been  
25 checked off. It goes down to the loan terms, talks about

1       conditions. Obviously title insurance is very important,  
2       it's, you know, almost half a page of the first page. You go  
3       to the second page, it shows what fees are going to be.

4           Q     If you can show the jury the second page,  
5       please.

6           A     Shows the fees that are going to be paid to  
7       the lender, what fees are going to be paid to the broker,  
8       this one happens to have, it's a contra fee because it's a  
9       New York tax. And then it shows about really -- shows a  
10      total of the fees, it shows your per diem interest which  
11      means what you're paying daily for interest and then your  
12      impounds and escrows which may be required to be part of your  
13      payment which covers basically property taxes and insurance.

14          Q     All right. There is a paragraph that is in  
15      bold, the entire language is in bold in that document. Could  
16      you read that to the jury.

17          A     It says, "HUD-1 settlement statement. The  
18      final HUD-1 settlement statement must be completed at  
19      settlement and must accurately reflect all receipts and  
20      disbursements indicated in these closing instructions and any  
21      amended closing instructions subsequent hereto. If any  
22      changes to fees occur, documents may need to be redrawn and  
23      resigned. Send the certified final HUD-1 settlement  
24      statement to us at the following address within 24 hours of  
25      the settlement. Quality Assurance, P.O. Box 16426, Irvine,

1 California, 92623 or fax to" --

2 Q And then the telephone number. Let's say if  
3 they agreed, the settlement agent agrees to follow these  
4 instructions, what happens then to funding the loan?

5 A Well, actually the loan's already been funded  
6 because in New York it's considered a wet state so we have to  
7 actually have sent the funds already to the closing agent.  
8 So they're not supposed to close the loan until all the  
9 requirements have been met by the instructions, closing  
10 instructions.

11 Q And those instructions say that, don't close  
12 this loan until you've done all this?

13 A Yes.

14 Q So you have already wired the money --

15 A Yes.

16 Q -- to the escrow account?

17 A To the closing agent's escrow account.

18 Q And whose money is that while it resides in  
19 the escrow account?

20 A BNC Mortgage.

21 Q What's the obligation of the closing agent or  
22 closing attorney to handle the money that's in the escrow  
23 account?

24 A Well, I believe their fiduciary duty is to not  
25 release any funds or to close the loan until all the

1 requirements have been made, according to the closing  
2 instructions.

3 Q I'm going to show you a document that's been  
4 previously marked and is admitted in evidence as Government  
5 Exhibit 7.4. And if you could publish that to the jury,  
6 please?

7 A Pardon me?

8 Q I'm speaking to him, that they can publish it  
9 to the jury. Can you tell the jury what this document is?

10 A This is a HUD-1 or settlement statement.

11 Q And what property does it relate to?

12 A It relates to 735 Burden Avenue, Troy,  
13 New York.

14 Q Is that the same property you were just  
15 discussing with respect to Exhibit 7.9 of the instructions?

16 A Yes.

17 Q Does this document relate to a mortgage that  
18 was provided by BNC?

19 A Yes.

20 Q Looking at -- is it signed on the second page?

21 A Yes.

22 Q Who signed it?

23 A The borrower, Brian Haskins, the seller,  
24 George Smith, and someone from the settlement agent.

25 Q Which is listed as the Bouchard Law Firm?

1                   A     Yes.

2                   THE COURT:   What was the address again, 735  
3 what?

4                   THE WITNESS:   Burden Avenue.

5                   Q     Why does BNC want a signed copy of the HUD  
6 before the attorney can disburse the funds?

7                   A     Because everybody needs to have agreed that  
8 this was the transaction that was being made.

9                   Q     Now I'd like to turn to the first page of the  
10 HUD-1.   Looking at the top of that document, little bit lower  
11 than that, what is the sale price?

12                  A     85,000.

13                  Q     And where is that listed?

14                  A     On line 101.

15                  Q     And is that important to BNC to know what the  
16 sale price is?

17                  A     Yes.

18                  Q     Why?

19                  A     Well, it's -- part of it will be determining  
20 the appraised value because typically we would use the lower  
21 of the sales price or the appraised value as the loan --  
22 sorry, as the fair market value.

23                  Q     Why is that?

24                  A     Because sometimes an appraisal can be wrong  
25 and we believe that, you know, fair market value would be

1 more defined by what's a willing buyer and a willing seller  
2 are willing to make the transaction or sell the property and  
3 buy the property for.

4 Q So you would look for the sales price as the  
5 indicate -- as an indication of value?

6 A Yes. Especially when you're reviewing the  
7 appraisal.

8 Q All right. Who is the borrower on this loan?

9 A Brian Haskins.

10 Q Is it important to know who the borrower is?

11 A Yes.

12 Q Does, looking at the bottom right -- left-hand  
13 corner of the HUD-1, does it reflect that the borrower will  
14 bring money to the closing?

15 A Yes.

16 Q And where is that? What line?

17 A 303.

18 Q And so it's, here it says cash, and then a  
19 check box?

20 A Yes.

21 Q From the borrower. And how much does it say  
22 the borrower will provide?

23 A \$17,177.97.

24 Q Now, there's handwritten language below that;  
25 can you read that to the jury?

1           A     It says, "Need copy of certified funds prior  
2 to disbursement."

3           Q     I'd like you to, like to show you -- no,  
4 that's all right.

5           THE COURT: Is that the certified check you  
6 talked about earlier? When you say --

7           THE WITNESS: Yes.

8           THE COURT: When you say certified funds?

9           THE WITNESS: Yes.

10          Q     And again, why is that important to BNC that  
11 he bring money to the closing?

12          A     Because it's required.

13          Q     Why would they require it?

14          A     I mean we're requiring on this loan, it looks  
15 like it's approximately a 20 percent down payment and you  
16 know, that basically, you have different programs or  
17 different loans, one's going to be an 80 percent loan, one's  
18 going to be 90 percent loan, one might be a 60 percent loan  
19 so we're going to require different things so if this  
20 borrower doesn't bring the down payment, then we have a 100  
21 percent loan and they may not have qualified for that loan  
22 amount. Or that loan program.

23          Q     Would BNC have lent money under the terms of  
24 this loan if the buyer didn't bring cash to the closing?

25          A     Not in this situation. They may have but they

1       would have to go through the whole loan process again. So I  
2       don't really know without the whole loan file, but they would  
3       not have closed the loan.

4           Q     Why not?

5           A     If they did not bring the down payment.

6           Q     So they wouldn't have done this loan?

7           A     Correct. Yes, correct, that's correct.

8           Q     I mean that's ... and how does -- okay. BNC  
9       requested the -- how does BNC insure that they actually did  
10      bring money to the loan, to the closing?

11          A     I'm assuming that we get a copy of the  
12      certified funds.

13          Q     All right. We'll get past that assumption.

14          A     Because we're relying, we're relying on the  
15      closing agent which are attorneys in the state of New York  
16      and so we're relying on them.

17          Q     Right. And was that in the instructions that  
18      you looked at before?

19          A     The certified funds?

20          Q     Yes. That they'd have to send them to you,  
21      send you proof of them, that is. And the language concerning  
22      the HUD.

23          A     Well, it just basically says that has to  
24      reflect all receipts and disbursements.

25          Q     All right.

1                   A     Doesn't specifically say the down payment but  
2 that's really what the -- so when we get the preliminary  
3 HUD-1 which this is probably a final HUD-1, that would be  
4 reflected on there.

5                   Q     But there's a note on this, too?

6                   A     Yeah.

7                   Q     Okay. You can't go mm-hmm, you have to say  
8 yes or no.

9                   A     I'm sorry, I'm sorry.

10                  Q     Just because the court reporter's taking down  
11 your answers.

12                  A     Yes.

13                  Q     I'd like to show you a document that's  
14 admitted in evidence as Government Exhibit 7.91, and ask you  
15 if you can identify that document. And if you can't, you  
16 can't.

17                  A     Well, the first page is just a transmission  
18 cover sheet from a fax, then this document is basically a  
19 purchase -- contract for purchase and sale of real estate.

20                  Q     For what property? Where is the location?

21                  A     Yes, 735 Burden Avenue, Troy, New York.

22                  Q     And what's the sale price on that property?

23                  A     35,000.

24                  Q     If BNC had known that the property was being  
25 sold for \$35,000, would they have provided a mortgage of

1       \$76,500 on this property?

2           A     No.

3           Q     Why not?

4           A     Because the appraised value would be the lower  
5     of the appraisal -- the fair market value would be the lower  
6     of the appraised value or the sales price and so therefore  
7     would be \$35,000 and if you did a loan for \$76,000, that  
8     would be over a 200 percent loan-to-value loan, and there's  
9     no loan program that that would qualify for.

10          Q     I'd like you to go back to look at Government  
11     Exhibit 7.4, which is the HUD-1. Pull up page 2 of that.  
12     Looking right above the signature line, could you read the  
13     language that appears above the signature line of your  
14     settlement agent?

15          A     Oh, of the settlement agent. The HUD-1  
16     settlement statement which I prepared is true, is a true and  
17     correct account of this transaction. I've caused or will  
18     cause the funds to be disbursed in accordance with this  
19     statement.

20          Q     All right. And is that important to BNC?

21          A     Yes.

22          Q     I'd like you to look at the checks that were  
23     actually distributed in this. Could you look at Government  
24     Exhibit 7.5. I'm going to hand it to you. And if you could  
25     put -- yes, thank you. Can you identify what that document

1 is?

2 A Looks like a check made to Brian Haskins in  
3 the same amount that was due from him to close this loan.

4 Q All right. Could you pull up Page 1 of the  
5 HUD-1. And you could zoom in on the bottom left-hand corner.  
6 The amount that the borrower was supposed to bring in is how  
7 much?

8 A \$17,177.97.

9 Q And there's a Xerox copy of a certified check  
10 for 17,000 -- for how much?

11 A \$17,177.97.

12 Q Do you know if that check was actually ever  
13 used, the money involved in that check was ever actually  
14 used?

15 A I do not know.

16 Q All right. To whom -- who do you rely on to  
17 know that it's used?

18 A The closing agent.

19 Q I'd like to hand you a document that's  
20 previously been marked and admitted in evidence as Government  
21 Exhibit 7.6. If you could pull that up, please. Can you  
22 identify what this document is.

23 A It's a check made to Brian Haskins from  
24 Michael Bouchard.

25 Q If BNC had known that instead of receiving

1       \$17,000, Brian -- from Brian Haskins, the settlement agent  
2       was actually providing \$33,000 to Brian Haskins, would you  
3       have closed -- allowed this loan to close?

4           A     No.

5           Q     Why not?

6           A     Because it wouldn't have qualified under our  
7       underwriting guidelines.

8           Q     Looking at the HUD-1, which was sent to your  
9       company, does that accurately reflect the disbursements that  
10      were made at closing?

11       A     No.

12           MR. OLMSTED: I don't know when you want us to  
13      break, your Honor. I have --

14           THE COURT: How about right now?

15           MR. OLMSTED: Okay.

16           THE COURT: See you in an hour, members of the  
17      jury.

18           THE CLERK: Court stands in recess.

19           (Luncheon recess, 12:40 p.m. to 1:45 p.m.)

20           (Open Court, Jury Out.)

21           THE COURT: Before we bring the jury in, I  
22      want to address an issue. There's been a request by the  
23      defense to not have court on Monday because of the death of  
24      your aunt?

25           THE DEFENDANT: Correct, your Honor.

1                   THE COURT: Okay. I got into a problem,  
2 you've got 12 witnesses already lined up to come?

3                   MS. THOMSON: Yes, your Honor.

4                   THE COURT: I looked up, it's Sister Clara  
5 Gilmartin is your aunt, is that correct?

6                   THE DEFENDANT: (Gesturing affirmatively.)

7                   THE COURT: Okay. My sympathy to you, but it  
8 says the calling hours are going to be on Sunday, and there's  
9 going to be a service after the calling hours and I think,  
10 you know, with the weekend ahead of you, it should give you  
11 plenty of time to share time with your relatives and  
12 whatever. So I'm going to deny your application, sir. All  
13 right. Bring the jury in, please.

14                   (Jury Present, 1:46 p.m.)

15                   THE COURT: Okay, the jury's back.

16                   MR. OLMSTED: Mr. Monahan, retake the stand.

17                   THE COURT: You may proceed, sir.

18                   MR. OLMSTED: Thank you, your Honor.

19                   Q     Mr. Monahan, I'd like to pick up where we left  
20 off but to start with a different closing, a different  
21 property, all right?

22                   A     Okay.

23                   Q     Take you through some of the documentation  
24 that was provided to BNC Bank. I'm going to hand you a  
25 document that's previously been marked and admitted as

1       Government Exhibit 8.4. Can you tell the jury what that  
2       document is?

3           A     It's a HUD-1.

4           Q     And what property does it relate to?

5           A     262 Colonie Street, Albany, New York.

6           Q     And does it relate to a mortgage that was  
7       provided by BNC?

8           A     Yes.

9           Q     What is the date of that closing? I think you  
10       could look on the signature page on the second page. You  
11       don't have to go there.

12          A     March 8th, 2005.

13          Q     And what's the sales price that is recited on  
14       that HUD?

15          A     \$80,000.

16          Q     And what is the mortgage amount?

17          A     \$72,000.

18          Q     And then scroll down just a little bit. And  
19       is there a check mark next to the \$72,000?

20          A     Yes.

21          Q     Prior to this closing, did BNC give the  
22       Bouchard firm instructions on how to handle the closing?  
23       Well, let me ask you this. I'm going to give you Government  
24       Exhibit 8.9, and ask if you can recognize that document. Do  
25       you recognize that document?

1           A     Yes.

2           Q     What is that?

3           A     Well, it's a little different than before  
4 because it also has a closing authorization letter, which  
5 would come from the funding department at BNC and then it has  
6 what we've looked at before which was the general closing  
7 instructions and the specific closing instructions.

8           Q     And where do they come from within BNC?

9           A     They're sent through the loan documentation  
10 department.

11          Q     And that's the first two pages?

12          A     No, no, the first two pages, the --

13          Q     Okay. Explain it to the jury.

14          A     Pardon me?

15          Q     Explain each page to the jury.

16          A     On the second document, correct? Second  
17 document?

18          Q     No, starting with the first page.

19          A     Sorry. So the first document is the  
20 settlement statement.

21          Q     Oh, no --

22                 THE COURT: That's the closing authorization  
23 letter, isn't it?

24          Q     I'm just talking about 8.9.

25          A     Closing authorization letter is basically a

1 document that the funding department creates and it really  
2 should tie in to the closing instructions which follow  
3 thereafter.

4 Q All right. And so the first two pages are the  
5 closing authorization letter?

6 A Correct.

7 Q And then the remaining pages are the general  
8 and specific closing instructions?

9 A Correct.

10 Q Does it -- do these authorization letters and  
11 closing instructions require a down payment, earnest money at  
12 the time of closing?

13 A Well, according to the HUD-1, it does.

14 Q All right. And looking at the first page of  
15 the closing authorization letter, at the bottom, number 5?

16 A Yes, proof of funds brought to close, copy of  
17 cashier's check.

18 Q I'm going to hand you a document that's  
19 previously been marked and is now admitted in evidence as  
20 8.5. Can you identify what that document is?

21 A Yes, it appears to be the down payment or the  
22 funds that they had to bring at closing from the borrower.

23 Q And can you tell me the amount of that check?

24 A Yes. \$13,709.18.

25 Q Does the HUD-1 -- can you switch to the HUD-1,

1       please, which is 8.4. Does the HUD-1 require the purchaser  
2       to bring that cashier's check?

3           A     Yes.

4           Q     And the closing instructions require the  
5       settlement agent to send a copy of that cashier's check to  
6       BNC?

7           A     Yes, the closing authorization letter does.

8           Q     And looking at the bottom left-hand part of  
9       the HUD-1, how much was the buyer supposed to bring to the  
10      closing?

11          A     \$13,709.16 -- I'm sorry, it's 18 cents.

12          Q     And is that the amount of the cashier's check?

13          A     Yes.

14          Q     Do you know whether that money was actually  
15       used or whether just the check was shown, or don't you know?

16          A     I don't know, I would assume that it was used.

17          Q     Why would you assume that?

18          A     I'm assuming because that's standard  
19       practices.

20          Q     All right. Is it part of what the HUD says?

21          A     Yes.

22          Q     So did someone tell you it was used?

23          A     Yes, according to the HUD-1.

24          Q     Who told you?

25          A     Gabriel Solomon, Charter One Bank, and the

1                   Bouchard Law Firm.

2                   Q     All three of them?

3                   A     Yes. Since they all signed it.

4                   Q     And above the Bouchard Law Firm signature, can  
5     you read the -- you don't have to go there, can you read the  
6     statement that appears right before the signature on the  
7     Bouchard Law Firm's signature?

8                   A     Yes.

9                   THE COURT: What exhibit are you on right now?

10                  MR. OLMSTED: I'm showing him the bottom of  
11     Exhibit 8.4.

12                  A     "The HUD-1 settlement statement which I have  
13     prepared is a true and correct account of this transaction.  
14     I've caused or will cause the funds to be disbursed in  
15     accordance with this statement."

16                  Q     Okay. And your instructions, which you've  
17     talked about in connection with -- that are on Exhibit 8.9,  
18     do they require that the HUD-1 be accurate?

19                  A     Yes.

20                  Q     Why?

21                  A     If they're not accurate, then the loan should  
22     have not been made.

23                  Q     Show you a document that's been previously  
24     marked and admitted in evidence as Government Exhibit 8.6.  
25     No, stay where you are. What is that document?

1           A     This document is a check from Michael Bouchard  
2 to Gabriel Solomon.

3           Q     Could you put up 8.6 on the other side. How  
4 much is that check for?

5           A     \$27,140.82.

6           Q     If you had known that instead of bringing to  
7 the closing \$13,000 plus, the buyer was actually walking away  
8 from the closing with a check for \$27,000 plus, would  
9 Fremont -- excuse me, would BNC have allowed this loan to  
10 close?

11          A     No.

12          Q     Why not?

13          A     Because it did not meet -- probably would not  
14 have met the guidelines of the loan program.

15          Q     When you say probably, doesn't it -- he's  
16 taking \$27,000 out without telling you?

17          A     Yes, I mean it wouldn't have met it.

18          Q     Okay. Because if you're -- okay.

19          A     Because it's required, requiring down payment  
20 and if -- and that's not what happened.

21          Q     How much is the seller supposed to receive on  
22 the bottom right-hand corner of the HUD-1?

23          A     \$75,205.47.

24          Q     Is it important that the seller actually  
25 receive the money?

1           A     Yes.

2           Q     I'd like to show you a document that's  
3 previously been admitted in evidence as Government  
4 Exhibit 8.91. Can you identify what that document is?

5           A     It's a contract for purchase and sale of real  
6 estate.

7           Q     And what's the sales price that appears on  
8 that contract?

9           A     \$40,000. It actually has two. It's, in  
10 writing it's 35,000, and then it's been crossed out and  
11 initialed and input was \$40,000.

12          Q     And on the HUD-1, what was the sale price?

13          A     \$80,000.

14          Q     Had you known -- had BNC known that the  
15 property was being sold that day for either 35 or \$40,000,  
16 would you have issued the loan based on \$80,000 sale price?

17          A     We would not have approved a \$72,000 loan.

18          Q     And is that difference important both to BNC  
19 and to Lehman Brothers?

20          A     Yes.

21          Q     Okay. I'm going to take you through several  
22 other -- if I can retrieve those. I'm going to take you  
23 through some other transactions that appear on the  
24 indictment. Starting with Exhibit 2.9, which is in evidence.  
25 If you'd pull up 2.9. What is this document?

1                   A     There's several documents here. There's a  
2 final conditional loan approval. There's a general closing,  
3 there are general closing instructions and there are specific  
4 closing instructions.

5                   Q     And what is the purpose of these documents?

6                   A     Well, again, the general closing -- well,  
7 first one? First one is the conditional loan approval.

8                   Q     Yes.

9                   A     Is something that's really an in-house  
10 document that shows the final loan approval, that's been  
11 input into the loan origination system. The general closing  
12 instructions are similar to what we've looked at before which  
13 is the instructions to the closing agent, you know, what  
14 needs to be -- what's required to close the loan. Same with  
15 the specific closing instructions.

16                  Q     And then following that, you have the general  
17 and the specific closing instructions. Who's the borrower?

18                  A     I'm sorry, and then there's also a temporary  
19 payment coupon letter.

20                  Q     And what is that?

21                  A     It's basically your stub for your payment  
22 prior to getting it from the loan servicer.

23                  Q     Looking at the next to the last page of that  
24 document. All right. In all bold, what is that? You don't  
25 have to read it entirely, what does that bold paragraph say?

1                   A     Basically says that the final HUD-1 must  
2 accurately reflect all receipts and disbursements related to  
3 the loan. And if not, then the loan shouldn't have been made  
4 and they may have to redraw and resign new loan documents.

5                   Q     I'd like to show -- I'm sorry, you were  
6 saying?

7                   A     I was saying, in other words, the loan  
8 shouldn't close if there's a material change.

9                   Q     Try to keep your voice up just so they can  
10 hear.

11                  A     Sorry.

12                  Q     I'm showing you Government Exhibit 2.4. What  
13 is that exhibit? It's admitted in evidence already.

14                  A     This is a HUD-1.

15                  Q     Who is the purchaser on that HUD-1?

16                  A     The borrower is -- I can't say the name,  
17 Lelautie Ramroop. This is related to a different property.

18                  Q     Oh, is it, 2.9?

19                  A     Than the other document, yes.

20                  Q     Then let's focus on this one. On 2.4, who is  
21 the seller?

22                  A     Oh, 2.4, the seller is Joann Sifo.

23                  Q     And what is the contract price?

24                  A     \$88,000.

25                  Q     And so what is the mortgage amount?

1           A     \$79,200.

2           Q     Okay. Can you go to the bottom right-hand  
3 corner -- left-hand corner of that document. How much does  
4 it say the buyer will bring to the closing?

5           A     \$16,551.45.

6           Q     Does it say that the buyer will get any money  
7 from the closing?

8           A     No.

9           Q     I'm going to hand you a document previously  
10 marked as Government Exhibit 2.6. If you could pull up 2.6.  
11 What is that document?

12          A     This is a check from Michael Bouchard escrow  
13 account to Lelautie Ramroop.

14          Q     If you had known that instead of bringing  
15 money to the closing, the purchaser would receive \$28,000  
16 plus from the closing, would BNC have allowed this loan to  
17 close?

18          A     No.

19          Q     I'm going to hand you a document that's marked  
20 Exhibit 2.91. Can you identify what that is?

21           THE COURT: Just back up. The last check, was  
22 that the 28,458.59?

23           MR. OLMSTED: Yes, it was. Yes, it was, your  
24 Honor.

25           THE COURT: What exhibit are we on now?

1                   MR. OLMSTED: We're still on 2.91, your Honor.

2                   A     This is a contract for purchase and sale of  
3 real estate.

4                   Q     And for what property?

5                   A     For 27 Catherine Street.

6                   Q     And who is the seller?

7                   A     Seller is -- that's the broker. It's Joann  
8 Sifo.

9                   Q     And what is the sales price?

10                  A     \$44,000.

11                  Q     And if, excuse me, if BNC had known that the  
12 property was being sold by Joann Sifo for \$44,000, would it  
13 have authorized a loan for \$79,200?

14                  A     No.

15                  Q     Retrieve those documents, please. Like to  
16 move to another property, identified in this. We're going to  
17 move from 2 to 3. I'd like to show you an exhibit previously  
18 marked as Government Exhibit 3.91. 3.91. What is that  
19 document?

20                  A     It's a combination of the closing  
21 authorization letter --

22                  Q     Excuse me, did I -- I gave you 3.9, I'm sorry,  
23 3.9.

24                  THE COURT: Not 3.91?

25                  MR. OLMSTED: Correct, I pulled up the wrong

1 document on the screen, your Honor, I misspoke. What's that  
2 document?

3 A It's a combination of the closing  
4 authorization letter, general closing instructions, and  
5 specific closing instructions.

6 Q And are these essentially the same as the  
7 closing instructions and the authorization letters about  
8 which you've already testified with respect to the other  
9 properties?

10 A Yes.

11 Q All right. And who is the borrower on this  
12 property?

13 A Brian Haskins.

14 Q And what is the location of the property?

15 A 526 North Brandywine Avenue in Schenectady,  
16 New York.

17 Q All right.

18 A Said it wrong.

19 Q Those are the directions on how to handle the  
20 closing?

21 A Yes.

22 Q Do they require an accurate HUD-1?

23 A Yes.

24 Q I'm going to hand you a Government Exhibit  
25 3.4. Can you identify that document?

1           A     This is a HUD-1.

2           Q     And who's the buyer?

3           A     Brian Haskins.

4           Q     And the location of the property?

5           A     526 North Brandywine Avenue.

6           Q     Can you show the contract price, the sales  
7     price?

8           A     \$92,000.

9           Q     And what is the mortgage amount?

10          A     \$82,800.

11          Q     Looking at the bottom left-hand corner of the  
12     document, how much is the buyer supposed to bring to the  
13     closing?

14          A     \$17,725.44.

15          Q     Is the buyer supposed to take away money from  
16     the closing?

17          A     No.

18          Q     Handing you Government Exhibit 3.6. Can you  
19     identify that document?

20          A     It's a check from Michael Bouchard to Brian  
21     Haskins.

22          Q     For how much?

23          A     For, excuse me, \$30,700 -- \$30,774.56.

24          Q     Now referring back to --

25           THE COURT: What exhibit number was that you

1 just referred to?

2 MR. OLMSTED: 3.6, your Honor.

3 THE COURT: Thank you.

4 Q Referring back now to the HUD which is  
5 Exhibit 3.4?

6 A Yes.

7 Q How much was the defendant supposed to bring?

8 A \$17,725.44.

9 Q So if BNC had known, instead of bringing  
10 \$17,000 plus he was getting a check for \$30,774, would you  
11 have -- would BNC have allowed this loan to go forward?

12 A No.

13 Q Why not?

14 A Because it wouldn't be the loan programs --  
15 program. In fact the closing authorization letter shows that  
16 it was a 90 percent loan-to-value loan so therefore there was  
17 a required down payment.

18 Q Okay. I'm going to show you a document now  
19 that's marked as 3.91. Can you tell the jury what that  
20 document is?

21 A Contract for purchase and sale of real estate.

22 Q What property -- what's the location of the  
23 property?

24 A 526 to 528 North Brandywine Avenue.

25 Q And how much, what's the sale price?

1           A     \$44,000.

2           Q     And who's the seller of that property?

3           A     Mary Shaw.

4           Q     Comparing that to the HUD-1, which is  
5 Government Exhibit 3.4, who is the seller on the property?

6           A     Mary Ann Shaw and Muriel Tupacz.

7           Q     If you had known that the property was being  
8 sold for the amount shown on the sales contract which was  
9 what amount again?

10          A     \$44,000.

11          Q     Would you have authorized a loan that is  
12 reflected on the HUD-1?

13          A     No.

14          Q     Let me collect those.

15           THE COURT: And that was what, 82,000?

16           THE WITNESS: Yes, 82,800.

17           THE COURT: Okay. And this property was  
18 44,000, right?

19           THE WITNESS: That's the purchase price.

20           THE COURT: Okay, all right. Thank you.

21          Q     Turning to the next property relating to  
22 Count 5 -- excuse me, 4. I'm going to show you an exhibit  
23 previously -- well, I'll bring them all up at once. Show you  
24 an exhibit marked as Government Exhibit 4.9. Can you  
25 identify that document?

1                   A     This is a closing authorization letter,  
2 specific closing instructions, general closing -- and general  
3 closing instructions.

4                   Q     All right. And is that similar to the  
5 documents that you have already testified about with respect  
6 to the earlier counts?

7                   A     Yes.

8                   Q     And in each case, does it require an accurate  
9 HUD-1?

10                  A     Yes.

11                  Q     And in each case does it require that the down  
12 payment be brought in cash, that there be a down payment?

13                  A     Yes.

14                  Q     Okay. And that all that be reflected  
15 truthfully on the HUD-1?

16                  A     Yes.

17                  Q     Hand you an exhibit marked as 4.4; can you  
18 identify what that document is?

19                  A     HUD-1.

20                  Q     And does it describe a sales price?

21                  A     Yes.

22                  Q     What is the sales price?

23                  A     \$90,000.

24                  Q     And who was the purchaser?

25                  A     Joseph --

1           Q     The borrower.

2           A     Joseph Ruiz.

3           Q     And what is the name of the seller?

4           A     National City Home Loan Services.

5           Q     And what's the amount of the mortgage?

6           A     \$81,000.

7           Q     How much money was the purchaser supposed to  
8 bring to the closing?

9           A     \$17,146.27.

10          Q     I'm going to hand you a document that's been  
11 marked as Government Exhibit 4.6 and already admitted in  
12 evidence. Can you identify what that document is?

13          A     It's a check to -- well, it's copy, can't  
14 really tell because it's not a check.

15          Q     Is it a check stub?

16          A     I don't know.

17          Q     Okay. If you don't know, that's fine. Let me  
18 ask you this then, it's in evidence. If the evidence shows  
19 that a check was written to Joseph Ruiz for \$42,677 instead  
20 of him actually bringing \$17,146 to the closing, would  
21 that -- would BNC have allowed that mortgage to close?

22          A     No.

23           MR. CASTILLO: Objection to the form of the  
24 question.

25           THE COURT: Well, it's -- it's already in

1 evidence, right?

2 MR. OLMSTED: Yes, it is.

3 THE COURT: The exhibit?

4 MR. CASTILLO: Well, he's asking if, that's my  
5 objection.

6 THE COURT: Sustained as -- rephrase your  
7 question, please.

8 Q Well, let me just ask this. Putting aside the  
9 exhibit, the check stub exhibit, if Joseph Ruiz did not bring  
10 \$17,000 to the closing, would you have allowed this, would  
11 BNC have allowed this mortgage to close?

12 A No.

13 Q If Joseph -- in addition to that, if Joseph  
14 Ruiz received over \$30,000, would you have allowed this  
15 mortgage to close?

16 A No.

17 Q I'm going to show you a sales contract,  
18 Government Exhibit 4.91. Can you identify what that document  
19 is?

20 A Contract for purchase and sale of real estate.

21 Q And what is -- what's the property location?

22 A 27 St. Mary's Avenue.

23 Q And what's the sales price?

24 A 32,000 -- \$32,552.

25 Q And had BNC known -- excuse me. Had BNC known

1       that the -- that there was a contract for sale for 32,552,  
2       would you have authorized the loan that appears on the HUD of  
3       \$81,000?

4                  A      No.

5                  Q      Why not?

6                  A      Because the fair market value would be  
7        \$32,552.

8                  Q      Okay. Turning to the exhibits relating to  
9        Count 5, I'd like to show you a document already in evidence,  
10      Government Exhibit 59 -- excuse me, 5.9. What is that  
11      document?

12                 A      It's a combination of general closing  
13      instructions and specific closing instructions.

14                 Q      And is the text of those documents comparable  
15      to the text of the closing instructions, the general closing  
16      instructions and the specific closing instructions you've  
17      testified about with respect to the other counts?

18                 A      Yes.

19                 Q      And in each case, does it require that the HUD  
20      be provided, that it be accurate, and that it reflect that  
21      there was cash brought to the closing?

22                 A      It required -- requires that they be accurate  
23      reflecting all receipts and disbursements.

24                 Q      All right. And that elsewhere it requires  
25      that there be proof that the money was -- that all the

1 receipts were obtained, is that right?

2 A Yes.

3 Q I'm going to hand you Government Exhibit 5.4.

4 Can you tell the jury what that document is?

5 A It's a HUD-1.

6 Q Who's the purchaser?

7 A Beesham Ramroop.

8 Q And who's the seller?

9 A John Brunette.

10 Q And what is the location of the property?

11 A 779 Eastern Avenue.

12 Q And what is recited as the sales price?

13 A \$85,000.

14 Q And according to -- what is the loan amount?

15 A \$76,500.

16 Q And moving down to the bottom of that  
17 document, how much money was supposed to be brought by the  
18 purchaser to the closing?

19 A \$15,496.64.

20 Q I'm going to hand you Government Exhibit 5.6,  
21 already in evidence, and ask if you can identify that  
22 document.

23 A Check from Michael Bouchard's escrow account  
24 to Beesham Ramroop.

25 Q And how much was that for?

1           A     \$31,203.36.

2           Q     Had BNC known that, instead of bringing  
3     \$15,496 to the closing, actually Beesham Ramroop would leave  
4     the closing with \$31,203.36 --

5                 THE COURT: What is the figure again?

6           Q     \$31,203. If you had known that, would you  
7     have allowed, would BNC have allowed this loan to close?

8           A     No.

9           Q     And why is that again?

10          A     Because it wouldn't have met the loan program.

11          Q     I'm going to show you a document marked as  
12     5.91. Can you identify what that document is?

13          A     Contract for purchase and sale of real estate.

14          Q     And what does it show -- where is the location  
15     of the real estate?

16          A     779 Eastern Avenue.

17          Q     And who's the seller?

18          A     John Brunette.

19          Q     And what's the sales price?

20          A     \$37,000.

21          Q     If BNC had known the sales price of this  
22     property was \$37,000, would it have authorized a loan in the  
23     amount of \$76,500?

24          A     No.

25          Q     And again, why not?

1           A     Because it wouldn't have met the loan program.

2           Q     What do you mean by that? Just explain.

3           A     Because the loan program, because the maximum  
4     you'd ever lend is 100 percent, and this would make it close  
5     to 200 percent.

6           Q     Just to be clear, there are loans you're  
7     saying that exist at BNC for 100 percent loan of the value?

8           A     Yes.

9           Q     Are -- are any of those involved in this case?

10          A     Not that I -- I wouldn't know.

11          Q     Of the BNC ones that you reviewed in  
12     preparation of your trial --

13          A     No, because they always required a down  
14     payment.

15          Q     Did you do 100 percent on purchases of  
16     multi-family properties?

17          A     I don't believe so, I think 90 percent was  
18     probably the maximum.

19          Q     All right. I'd like to turn to the documents  
20     related to Count 6. Again, starting with 6.9. Can you  
21     identify these documents?

22          A     It's several documents, specific closing  
23     instructions, general closing instructions, and the contract  
24     for purchase and sale of real estate.

25          Q     Okay. Now, the contract for sale, purchase of

1 real estate, in that document, what's the sale price?

2 A \$40,000.

3 Q All right.

4 THE COURT: 40,000?

5 THE WITNESS: 40,000, yes.

6 Q Yeah, I think that -- I may have given you  
7 6.91, as well as 6.9, but okay. So the closing instructions,  
8 the general and specific closing instructions, are they  
9 comparable in language and requirements to the closing  
10 instructions that you've testified about already with respect  
11 to the earlier counts?

12 A Yes.

13 Q All right. I'd like to show you the document  
14 that's been previously marked as Government Exhibit 6.4. Can  
15 you tell the jury what that is?

16 A It's the HUD-1.

17 Q And what -- for what property, what's the  
18 location of the property?

19 A 33 Jefferson Street, Troy, New York.

20 Q Who's the borrower?

21 A Rosely Dafna.

22 Q And what is the contract price?

23 A \$75,000.

24 Q And what's the mortgage amount?

25 A \$67,500.

1                   THE COURT: And what was the purchase amount?

2                   THE WITNESS: \$75,000.

3                   Q     According to the -- according to the HUD-1,  
4 how much money was the purchaser supposed to bring to this  
5 closing?

6                   A     14,2 -- there you go, \$14,263.53.

7                   Q     I'm going to hand you a document that's marked  
8 Government Exhibit 6.6. Can you identify what this document  
9 is?

10                  A     It's a check from Michael Bouchard's escrow  
11 account to Rosely Dafna.

12                  Q     So if BNC had known that instead of bringing  
13 the \$14,000 that is reflected in the HUD to the closing,  
14 instead Rosely Dafna would be written a check for \$21,736,  
15 would BNC have allowed the loan to go forward?

16                  A     No.

17                  Q     Going back to the HUD-1, how much -- what's --  
18 how much money was supposed to be paid to the seller? Bottom  
19 right-hand corner of the HUD-1 which is Exhibit 6.4.

20                  THE COURT: What's the question, how much?

21                  Q     How much is supposed to be paid to the seller?

22                  A     I may be incorrect on one number but  
23 \$74,638.30.

24                  Q     I'm going to hand you a document that's been  
25 previously marked and admitted as Government Exhibit 6.3.

1       Can you identify that document?

2           A     This is a check from Michael Bouchard escrow  
3 account to Jerald Palma for \$28,838.30 [sic].

4           Q     Remind the jury who Jerald Palma is.

5           A     He's the seller of the property.

6           Q     If BNC had known that instead of sending him  
7 \$74,000, he was only getting \$20,800, would BNC have allowed  
8 this closing to go forward?

9           A     No.

10          Q     I'd like to turn to the documents relating to  
11 the exhibit relating to Count 9. Show you a document that's  
12 previously been marked and admitted as Government  
13 Exhibit 9.9. Can you tell the jury what that is?

14          A     Closing authorization letter, general closing  
15 instructions, and specific closing instructions.

16          Q     And who's the borrower?

17          A     Ronald Dawson, III.

18          Q     And what's the property address?

19          A     8 Clemenshaw Avenue in Troy, New York.

20          Q     And after the closing authorization, are there  
21 any general and specific instructions on the closing?

22          A     Yes.

23          Q     And are they in substance -- here, let me  
24 just -- that goes somewhere else. Do they require accurate  
25 HUD-1 to be sent to the BNC?

1           A     Yes.

2           Q     And the funds to be delivered at the closing  
3     by the buyer?

4           A     Yes.

5           Q     I'd like to show you a document that's  
6     previously been marked and admitted into evidence as  
7     Government Exhibit 9.4. What is that?

8           A     This is the HUD-1 for the same property.

9           Q     And what does it show the sales price to be?

10          A     \$135,000.

11          Q     And what is the mortgage amount?

12          A     \$114,750.

13          Q     And looking at the bottom left-hand corner of  
14     the document, how much money was Ronald Dawson supposed to  
15     bring to the closing?

16          A     \$26,623.82.

17                 THE COURT: 26,6 what?

18                 THE WITNESS: \$623.82.

19          Q     I'd like to hand you Government Exhibit 9.6.  
20     Can you identify that document?

21          A     It's a check from Michael Bouchard escrow  
22     account to Ronald Dawson.

23          Q     Now, if BNC had known that instead of bringing  
24     money to the closing, actually Ronald Dawson received a check  
25     for \$24,000, in excess of \$24,000, would BNC have allowed the

1 loan to close?

2 A No.

3 Q Is that payment disclosed anywhere on the HUD?

4 A The \$24,739?

5 Q Yes.

6 A No.

7 Q Should it have been if it was paid out of the  
8 proceeds of the loan proceeds?

9 A Yes.

10 Q I'd like to turn to the documents related to  
11 Count 10. And I bring you and put while I'm up there, I'm  
12 handing you Exhibit 10.9. Can you identify that document to  
13 the jury?

14 A Closing authorization letter, general closing  
15 instructions and specific closing instructions.

16 Q And are they in substance the same as the  
17 closing authorization letter, the general closing  
18 instructions and the specific closing instructions that you  
19 testified about with respect to all of the other counts?

20 A Yes.

21 Q What property do they relate to?

22 A 5 Backus Street.

23 Q And who is the borrower on that property?

24 A Brian Haskins.

25 Q And who is the seller? It may not be in the

1 instructions. What is the purchase price?

2 A \$70,000.

3 Q I'm going to hand you Government Exhibit 10.4.

4 Can you identify that document?

5 A This is the HUD-1 for the same property.

6 Q And what is -- what is identified as the  
7 purchase price on that HUD-1?

8 A \$70,000.

9 Q And what is the loan amount?

10 A \$63,000.

11 Q And does it disclose that the buyer has to  
12 bring money to the closing?

13 A Yes.

14 Q How much?

15 A \$14,078.97.

16 Q I'm going to hand you Government Exhibit 10.6.

17 Can you identify what that document is?

18 A It's a check from Michael Bouchard escrow  
19 account to Brian Haskins.

20 Q In the amount of what?

21 A \$15,921.03.

22 Q Had BNC known that Brian Haskins was not  
23 bringing money to the closing but in fact would leave the  
24 closing with \$15,921, would BNC have allowed this loan to  
25 close?

1           A     No.

2           Q     And again, why not?

3           A     Because the HUD-1 wasn't accurate and it would  
4 not have met the underwriting guidelines.

5           Q     I show you a document that's admitted in  
6 evidence as Government Exhibit 10.91. Can you identify what  
7 that is?

8           A     It's the contract for purchase and sale of  
9 real estate.

10          Q     And who's the seller?

11          A     Sharon Latal.

12          Q     And who is the seller on the HUD that you  
13 identified as Exhibit 10.4?

14          A     Sharon Latal.

15          Q     What is the sales contract price on -- that  
16 appears on Government Exhibit 10.91?

17          A     \$41,000.

18          Q     And what is the contract price that appears on  
19 the HUD-1 that was sent to you by the settlement agent?

20          A     \$70,000.

21          Q     And had you known that the property was being  
22 sold for \$41,000, would BNC have allowed this loan to close?

23          A     No.

24          Q     I'd like to turn to Count 11, and I'm bringing  
25 you Government Exhibit 11.9. Can you identify that document?

1           A     This is the general closing instructions and  
2 specific closing instructions.

3           Q     And do they require the same accuracy and  
4 activity that was -- you testified about with respect to the  
5 other closing instructions?

6           A     Yes.

7           Q     And what property does it relate to?

8           A     11 Charles Street.

9           Q     And who is the borrower?

10          A     Scott Brault.

11          Q     Like to show you a document marked as  
12 Exhibit 11.4. Can you identify that document?

13          A     HUD-1.

14          Q     And who is the borrower?

15          A     Scott Brault.

16          Q     What is the location?

17          A     11 Charles Street.

18          Q     And what is the contract price?

19          A     \$90,000.

20          Q     And what is the loan amount?

21          A     \$81,000.

22          Q     I'm going to show you a document, you may not  
23 be able to identify it, show you a document, 11.6. Which is  
24 in evidence. Can you identify that document?

25          A     No.

1                   Q     All right. Looking back on the exhibit of  
2     11.4, the final HUD. If BNC had known that instead of  
3     bringing \$15,210 to the closing, Scott Brault would have  
4     received 27,000, in excess of \$27,000 from the closing, would  
5     you have -- would BNC have allowed this loan to go forward?

6                   A     No.

7                   Q     I'd like to turn to Count 12. Looking at  
8     Exhibit 12.9. What is that document?

9                   A     A combination of the closing authorization  
10   letter, general closing instructions, and specific closing  
11   instructions.

12                  Q     And are they by text the same as the -- or I  
13   mean what property do they relate to?

14                  A     506 18th Street.

15                  Q     Eighteenth or Eighth?

16                  A     I'm sorry, 506 Eighth Street.

17                  Q     All right. And who's the borrower?

18                  A     Gary Cuoco. I don't know how to pronounce it.

19                  Q     Cuoco. He's not here, we can settle on that  
20   pronunciation unless we're asked. Purchase price, what's the  
21   purchase price?

22                  A     \$85,000.

23                  Q     And what's the loan amount?

24                  A     \$76,500.

25                  Q     I'd like you to turn to Government

1           Exhibit 12.4. What is that document?

2           A     It's the HUD-1 for the same property.

3           Q     Does it recite what the purchase price is?

4           A     \$85,000.

5           Q     And the mortgage amount?

6           A     \$76,500.

7           Q     All right. And down on the bottom left-hand  
8 corner, does it say how much the buyer will bring to the  
9 closing?

10          A     \$14,478.63.

11          Q     And by sending this HUD-1 to BNC at the end of  
12 the closing, is the settlement agent certifying that that  
13 money was in fact brought to the closing?

14          A     Yes.

15          Q     I'd like to show you a document marked as  
16 Government Exhibit 12.6. Can you identify that document?

17          A     Check from Michael Bouchard escrow account to  
18 Gary Cuoco.

19          Q     Had BNC known that, that the purchaser, Gary  
20 Cuoco, was receiving \$26,000 plus, rather than bringing in  
21 money to the closing, would you have allowed this to go  
22 forward?

23          A     No.

24          Q     And is that disbursement reflected anywhere on  
25 the HUD-1?

1           A     No.

2           Q     I'd like to show you a document marked as  
3     Government Exhibit 12.91. Can you identify that document?

4           A     It's a contract for purchase and sale of real  
5     estate.

6           Q     And what does it recite the sales price to be?

7           A     \$45,000.

8           Q     And what is the sales price that's recited on  
9     the HUD-1?

10          A     \$85,000.

11          Q     And had you known that there was a contract  
12     for sale for \$45,000 for this property on this day, would BNC  
13     have authorized the mortgage that is reflected in the HUD-1?

14          A     No.

15          Q     I'd like to turn to Count 13. Handing you  
16     Exhibit 13.9, can you identify what that is?

17          A     Closing authorization letter, general closing  
18     instructions and specific closing instructions.

19          Q     And by substance, do they require -- and  
20     language do they require the same things as the prior general  
21     and specific closing instructions and closing authorization  
22     letters about which you've already testified on the earlier  
23     counts?

24          A     Yes.

25          Q     And what property does this relate to, what

1 location?

2 A 385 Elk Street.

3 Q And who was the purchaser?

4 A Or the borrower, Gary Cuoco again.

5 Q And what is the purchase price?

6 A \$85,000.

7 THE COURT: Where is that, 385 Elk Street,  
8 where?

9 THE WITNESS: In Albany, New York.

10 Q And what is the loan amount?

11 A It is \$76,500.

12 Q Handing you 13.4. Can you identify that  
13 document?

14 A This is the HUD-1.

15 Q What property --

16 A Same property, 385 Elk Street, Albany,  
17 New York.

18 Q So is this the HUD-1 that is called for in the  
19 instructions that you've just identified in Exhibit 13.9?

20 A Yes.

21 Q And does that HUD-1, what does it recite the  
22 sales price to be?

23 A \$85,000.

24 Q And the mortgage amount?

25 A \$76,500.

1           Q     And how much is the purchaser, the borrower  
2     supposed to bring to the closing?

3           A     \$14,590.15.

4           Q     I'm handing you Government Exhibit 13.6. Can  
5     you identify that?

6           A     This is a copy of the check from Michael  
7     Bouchard escrow account to Gary Cuoco.

8           Q     And what is the amount?

9           A     \$28,259.85.

10          Q     Had BNC known that instead of bringing to the  
11     closing \$14,590, Mr. Cuoco would have a check issued to him  
12     in the amount of \$28,259, would BNC have allowed this loan to  
13     close?

14          A     No.

15          Q     And why not?

16          A     Because the HUD-1 would be inaccurate and the  
17     guidelines would not have been followed. Or it would not  
18     have met the underwriting guidelines.

19          Q     I'd like to show you Government Exhibit 13.91.  
20     What is that?

21          A     This is a contract for purchase and sale of  
22     real estate.

23          Q     And how much, what's the sales price on that  
24     property?

25          A     \$42,500.

1           Q     And what's the location of that property?

2           A     380 -- 385 Elk Street.

3           Q     So that's the same property we just were  
4 talking about?

5           A     Yes.

6           Q     Had BNC known that this property was being  
7 sold that day for \$42,500 by the seller, would they have  
8 authorized a loan of \$76,500 to Mr. Cuoco?

9           A     No.

10          Q     Is any of this lower price disclosed anywhere  
11 on a HUD to you?

12          A     No.

13          Q     I'd like to show you 14.9. What is that?

14          A     This is the general closing instructions and  
15 specific closing instructions.

16          Q     And are they in substance identical to the  
17 closing instructions about which you've already testified  
18 with respect to other properties?

19          A     Yes.

20          Q     And what property do they relate to?

21          A     10 Paulding Street.

22          Q     In Schenectady?

23          A     Schenectady, New York.

24          Q     And who's the borrower?

25          A     Borrower is Beesham Ramroop.

1 Q What's the sales price?

2 A Sales price is \$85,000.

3 Q And so what's the loan amount?

4 A \$76,500.

5 Q Like to hand you Exhibit 14.4. Can you tell  
6 the jury what that document is?

7 A The HUD-1.

8 Q Relating to what property?

9 A The same property.

10 Q Which is 10 Paulding?

11 A Yes.

12 Q And what's the sales price?

13 A \$85,000.

14 Q What's the mortgage amount?

15 A \$76,500.

16 Q According to the HUD-1 that was sent to BNC,  
17 how much money did the buyer bring to the closing in  
18 collected funds?

19 A \$16,113.85.

20 Q I'd like you to look at Exhibit 14.6. What is  
21 that document?

22 A This is a check from Michael Bouchard escrow  
23 account to Beesham Ramroop in the amount of \$27,236.15.

24 Q Bottom left-hand corner of the memo field,  
25 what does it say?

1           A     Ramroop, 10 Paulding.

2           Q     And is that the address that's identified in  
3     Government Exhibit 14.4?

4           A     Yes.

5           Q     All right. If you had known that instead of  
6     bringing a cashier's check to the closing, Beesham Ramroop  
7     would have a check issued to him in the amount of \$27,236.15,  
8     would you have -- would BNC have allowed this loan to close?

9           A     No.

10          Q     Like to show you Government Exhibit 14.91.  
11     What is that?

12          A     It's the contract for purchase and sale of  
13     real estate for 10 Paulding Street.

14          Q     And what's the sale price?

15          A     \$42,000.

16          Q     And had BNC known that the property was being  
17     sold for \$42,000, would it have issued a check -- I mean  
18     would it have issued a mortgage in the amount disclosed on  
19     the HUD-1, which is 14.4, Exhibit 14.4?

20          A     The problem on this one is I don't have the  
21     last page, so I don't know the date because I'm comparing  
22     dates to make sure they're -- Couple years before that.

23          Q     Who's the seller on that property?

24          A     The seller is -- the seller's not filled in  
25     also.

1           Q     Is there a fax sheet on the fax dates on the  
2 top?

3           A     Yes.

4           Q     What's the fax date on the top?

5           A     February 15th, 2005.

6           Q     And that's -- all right. If you had known  
7 that the property was sold on or about February 15th of 2005  
8 for that amount, would you have authorized the loan of  
9 \$76,500 to close on March 28 of 2005?

10          A     No.

11          Q     Why not?

12          A     Because the fair market value would have been  
13 the lower of the purchase price.

14          Q     That's the amount you would have relied on to  
15 issue the loan?

16          A     Or the appraised amount, it would be the lower  
17 of the two.

18          Q     And looking, just to go back to the HUD-1 for  
19 a moment which is 14.4, page 2 at the bottom, is it dated,  
20 the signatures?

21          A     Yes.

22          Q     What date?

23          A     March 20th, 2005 -- no, March 28, 2005.

24          Q     All right. Like to move to Count 15. I'm  
25 handing you Exhibit 15.9. Could you identify what that is?

1                   A     Specific closing instructions, closing agent's  
2 acknowledgment, a closing authorization letter, a memorandum  
3 showing where you should wire the mortgage proceeds to, a  
4 loan document worksheet, and a final conditional approval,  
5 and general closing instructions.

6                   Q     And do the closing instructions contained in  
7 that document repeat the same closing instructions about  
8 which you've already testified?

9                   A     Yes.

10                  Q     Do they require that the HUD-1 be accurate and  
11 accurately disclose the disbursements made with the mortgage  
12 funds?

13                  A     Yes.

14                  Q     Does it also require that any money brought to  
15 the closing should be brought in cash, or in collected funds?

16                  A     Yes. Yes, it does.

17                  Q     Like to show you Exhibit 15.4. Can you  
18 identify that to the jury?

19                  A     This is a HUD-1 on the same property which is  
20 930 Strong Street.

21                  Q     And what -- who's the borrower?

22                   THE COURT: Schenectady?

23                   THE WITNESS: Yes.

24                  Q     And who is the borrower?

25                  A     The borrower is Lelautie --

1           Q     Try this, Lelautie.

2           A     Lelautie Ramroop.

3           Q     And what is the sales price?

4           A     \$80,000.

5           Q     And what is the mortgage amount?

6           A     \$72,000.

7           Q     And how much money is Lelautie Ramroop  
8 supposed to bring to the closing?

9           A     \$14,499.88.

10          Q     All right. It's been awhile so could you  
11 remind the jury why you need somebody to bring money to the  
12 closing?

13          A     Because that's their down payment on the  
14 purchase of the home.

15          Q     And why do you require a down payment?

16          A     Well, we required it, according to this HUD-1,  
17 there was a required down payment because it didn't meet the  
18 guidelines to have 100 percent mortgage.

19          Q     Okay. So why do you want a down payment? I  
20 mean what's the difference between having a down payment and  
21 not having a down payment?

22          A     Well, you want a down payment for certain  
23 borrowers which is the vast majority of the population.

24          Q     Why?

25          A     So there's skin in the game, otherwise they

1 may not -- they're not as -- they're not as motivated to make  
2 their payments.

3 Q Skin in the game. Could you just describe  
4 that? Because they've heard that phrase a couple times and  
5 they may not be in your business to know what it means. What  
6 do you mean by skin in the game?

7 A Well, it's -- I can even relate it to an auto  
8 loan. I mean you typically don't go and get hundred percent  
9 loan on an auto, you, you know, it just, proven statistical  
10 fact that the more down payment you put on buying an asset, a  
11 home or an automobile, the more likelihood that you're going  
12 to be paying your payments. We're in the business to have  
13 performing loans. Otherwise, there's really no reason to be  
14 in business.

15 Q How much --

16 THE COURT: What did you say was the amount he  
17 was to bring to the closing?

18 THE WITNESS: \$14,499.88.

19 THE COURT: Thank you.

20 Q And I'm showing you 15.6. Can you tell the  
21 jury what that document is?

22 A It's a check from Michael Bouchard escrow  
23 account to Le -- I forgot.

24 Q Lelautie?

25 A Lelautie Ramroop.

1           Q     And does it relate to a particular property in  
2 the memo field?

3           A     930 Strong.

4           Q     And is that the same property that was just  
5 being described in the HUD-1?

6           A     Yes.

7           Q     And if you had known that instead of bringing  
8 money to the closing, Lelautie Ramroop was getting a check  
9 made payable to her from the closing, would you have allowed  
10 this loan to close?

11          A     No.

12          Q     I'm showing you Exhibit 15.91. Can you  
13 identify that?

14          A     This is a contract for purchase and sale of  
15 real estate.

16          Q     And what's the location of the real estate?

17          A     930 Strong Street.

18          Q     And what's the sales price?

19          A     \$40,000.

20          Q     Had you known the property was being sold for  
21 \$40,000, would BNC have authorized the loan to go forward in  
22 the amount of what is it, 76,500?

23          A     No.

24          Q     Why not?

25          A     Because it wouldn't have met the guidelines,

1       our underwriter guidelines. It was a risk of, based on the  
2       appraised value of the property, because we would use the  
3       lower of the appraised value or that purchase price, so the  
4       loan would have ended up being over 100 percent loan to  
5       value.

6           Q       Let's turn to 18. I'd like to hand you  
7       Government Exhibit 18.9. Can you tell the jury what that  
8       document is?

9           A       Closing authorization letter, general closing  
10      instructions, specific closing instructions for a loan to  
11      Brian Haskins and the property is 395 Livingston Avenue in  
12      Albany, New York.

13          Q       And the amount of the loan -- amount of the  
14      purchase price is?

15          A       \$105,000.

16          Q       And the amount of the loan?

17          A       Is \$85,500.

18          Q       Like to hand you Government Exhibit 18.4. Can  
19      you identify what that document is?

20          A       It's the HUD-1 for 395 Livingston Avenue,  
21      Albany, New York. Brian Haskins is the borrower.

22          Q       And what's the sales price?

23          A       \$105,000.

24          Q       And the amount of the mortgage loan?

25          A       \$85,500.

1           Q     And how much money on the bottom left-hand  
2 corner of that document is Brian Haskins supposed to bring in  
3 the closing?

4           A     \$27,940.86.

5           THE COURT:  940.86?

6           THE WITNESS:  \$27,940.86.

7           THE COURT:  Okay.

8           Q     And I'm handing you 18.6.  Can you tell the  
9 jury what that is?

10          A     A check from Michael Bouchard escrow account  
11 to Brian Haskins.

12          Q     In the amount of?

13          A     \$47,004.14.

14          Q     So adding the 27,000 that he doesn't bring in  
15 and the 47,000 that is written out to him and that's a  
16 difference of \$74,000?

17          A     Yes.

18          Q     On a purchase price of \$105,000?

19          A     Yes.

20          Q     Would you have allowed that loan to go through  
21 if you had known that these were the transactions that were  
22 being done with your proceeds?

23          A     No.

24          Q     And I say you, I mean BNC.

25          A     Yes.

1                   Q     Okay. Look at 18.91. Can you identify what  
2 that is?

3                   A     It's a contract for purchase and sale of real  
4 estate.

5                   Q     And what's the purchase price?

6                   A     \$30,950.

7                   Q     And that appears on page 2 of that document?

8                   A     Yes.

9                   Q     Had you known that the purchase price was  
10 \$30,950, would you have authorized a loan based upon sales  
11 price of \$105,000?

12                  A     No.

13                  Q     For the same reasons you've already described,  
14 with respect to the other loans?

15                  A     Correct.

16                  Q     All right. Let me take those back and I'll  
17 bring in the next. I'd like to show you 19.9. Can you  
18 identify that document?

19                  A     Specific closing instructions and general  
20 closing instructions related to 4 Kaatskill Way in Ballston  
21 Spa, New York.

22                  Q     Who is the purchaser?

23                  A     The borrower was Nickole Riley.

24                  Q     And what was the sales price?

25                  A     It was \$240,000.

1           Q     And I'm handing you Government Exhibit 19.4.

2     Can you identify what that is?

3           A     It's the HUD-1 related to the same property.

4           Q     And what does it disclose the sales price to  
5     be?

6           A     \$240,000.

7           Q     So what does that make the amount of the  
8     mortgage?

9           A     Oh, \$228,000.

10          Q     \$228,000, right?

11          A     Yes.

12          Q     How much money was Nickole Riley supposed to  
13     bring to that closing?

14          A     \$16,781.55.

15          Q     All right. And to make that closing happen,  
16     she would bring that money and that BNC would wire \$228,000?

17          A     Yes.

18          Q     All right. Like to show you a document that's  
19     marked as 19.91. Can you identify what that is?

20          A     Contract for purchase and sale of real estate.

21          Q     And who's the purchaser?

22          A     Nickole Riley.

23          Q     And what's the property, where is the  
24     property?

25          A     4 Kaatskill Way, Ballston Spa, New York.

1           Q     What is the sale price?

2           A     220 -- \$224,000.

3           Q     All right. Had you known that the purchase  
4     price was 224,000, would you have authorized the mortgage of  
5     228,000?

6           A     No.

7           Q     20.9. Can you identify what this document is?

8           A     General closing instructions, specific closing  
9     instructions, and the closing authorization letter related to  
10    332 Sheridan Avenue in Albany, New York.

11          Q     And what's the sales price?

12          A     \$85,000.

13          Q     And what's the mortgage amount?

14          A     \$76,500.

15          Q     I'd like to show you Government Exhibit 20.4.  
16     Can you identify that document?

17          A     This is the HUD-1, related to 332 Sheridan  
18    Avenue in Albany, New York.

19          Q     Up at the very top of that HUD-1 above the  
20   language, is there a fax banner sheet, a fax banner?

21          A     Yes.

22          Q     And who's it from?

23          A     Bouchard Law Firm.

24          Q     And what's the date?

25          A     May 2nd, 2005.

1           Q     On that document, what's the amount of the  
2 mortgage?

3           A     \$76,500.

4           Q     And who's the purchaser?

5           A     Byron Alling.

6           Q     And how much money was Byron Alling supposed  
7 to bring in the closing based on the HUD-1 that was faxed to  
8 BNC?

9           A     I can't make it out completely but it looks  
10 like \$15,952.94.

11          Q     And is there a stamp on that that says best  
12 copy available?

13          A     Yes, best only copy.

14          Q     Okay. I'd like to hand you 20.6; do you have  
15 any idea what that document is?

16          A     It's a check from Michael Bouchard escrow  
17 account to Brian [sic] Alling for \$31,570.45.

18          Q     And had you known that instead of bringing  
19 15,000, or in excess of 15,000 to the closing, Brian [sic]  
20 Alling got a check issued to him for \$31,000, in excess of  
21 that, would BNC have authorized this closing to go forward?

22          A     No.

23          Q     All right. Now what was the sales price  
24 listed on the HUD-1?

25          A     \$88,000.

1                   Q     I'd like to hand you a document that's marked  
2 as 20.91. Is that -- what is that document?

3                   A     This is contract for purchase and sale of real  
4 estate.

5                   Q     For what property?

6                   A     For 332 Sheridan Avenue in Albany.

7                   Q     Is that the same property we've been talking  
8 about with respect to the other 20s?

9                   A     Yes.

10                  Q     What's the sales price there?

11                  A     It is \$38,500.

12                  Q     And had you known that sales price, would you  
13 have authorized this sale to go forward?

14                  A     The loan, no.

15                  Q     The loan to go forward?

16                  A     No, we would not.

17                  Q     Okay, I'll take those. 21. Like to show you  
18 Exhibit 21.9. What is that document?

19                  A     Closing authorization letter, general closing  
20 instructions, specific closing instructions for 18 Benjamin  
21 Street in Albany, New York.

22                  Q     And is this -- okay. And they're from BNC to  
23 whom?

24                  A     To the Bouchard Law Firm.

25                  Q     All right. And who's purchasing the property?

1           A     Brian [sic] Alling.

2           Q     And what's the sale price?

3           A     \$90,000.

4           Q     And what's the loan amount?

5           A     \$81,000.

6           Q     I'm handing you Exhibit 21.4. Can you  
7 identify what that document is?

8           A     It's the HUD-1 for 18 Benjamin Street in  
9 Albany, New York.

10          Q     And it shows who as the purchaser?

11          A     Byron Alling.

12          Q     And the purchase price?

13          A     \$90,000.

14          Q     And the amount of the mortgage?

15          A     \$81,000.

16          Q     How much money was Byron Alling supposed to  
17 bring to the closing?

18          A     \$17,414.99.

19          Q     I'd like to hand you a document that's marked  
20 Exhibit 21.6. Can you identify that?

21          A     It's a check from -- copy of the check from  
22 Michael Bouchard escrow account to Brian or Byron Alling in  
23 the amount of \$27,435.01.

24          Q     If BNC had known that instead of bringing in  
25 excess of \$17,000 to the closing, Brian [sic] Alling was

1 having a check issued to him in excess of \$27,000 from the  
2 closing, would you have allowed this to go forward?

3 A No.

4 Q Is that \$27,000 check disclosed anywhere on  
5 that HUD? The check to Brian [sic] Alling?

6 THE COURT: It was Brian, then it went to  
7 Byron. Where are we at now?

8 A It's Byron. B-y-r. I did that midstream, I  
9 apologize.

10 Q Had you known that the purchase -- what's the  
11 purchase price on the sales contract?

12 A No, we would not have made the loan.

13 Q Count 22. Like to show you exhibit marked  
14 22.9. Can you identify what this document is?

15 A Closing authorization letter, general closing  
16 instructions, specific closing instructions for a loan on --  
17 secured by 179 Main Street in --

18 Q Cohoes?

19 A Cohoes, New York.

20 Q And who's the borrower?

21 A Daniel Friebel.

22 Q And what's the purchase price?

23 A \$95,000.

24 Q And what's the amount of the loan?

25 A \$85,500.

1           Q     I'd like to hand you 22.4. What is that  
2 document?

3           A     The HUD-1 related to 179 Main Street in  
4 Cohoes, New York.

5           Q     And what is the purchase price reflected in  
6 that document?

7           A     \$95,000.

8           Q     And what's the loan amount?

9           A     \$85,500.

10          Q     And how much was Daniel Friebel supposed to  
11 bring to the closing?

12          A     \$18,981.92.

13          Q     And according to this HUD, how much money --  
14 did he actually do that, according to this HUD?

15          A     Yes.

16          Q     I'd like to hand you a document 22.6. Can you  
17 identify what that document is?

18          A     I do not -- no, I can't.

19          Q     Okay. If Daniel Friebel did not bring the  
20 \$18,000, \$18,981 in collected funds, would you have allowed  
21 this to go forward, this closing?

22          A     No.

23          Q     How much is supposed to be paid to the seller  
24 in this?

25          A     \$83,264.50.

1           Q     And who are the sellers?

2           A     Robert and Elizabeth Marion.

3           Q     And I'm handing you a document that's in  
4 evidence as Government Exhibit 22.3. Can you identify that  
5 document?

6           A     This is a check from Michael Bouchard escrow  
7 account to Robert Marion and Elizabeth Marion in the amount  
8 of \$47,293.49.

9           Q     So if instead of getting \$83,000, they got  
10 \$47,000, would that have made a difference to BNC?

11          A     Yes.

12          Q     Why?

13          A     Because the HUD-1 is incorrect and therefore  
14 the loan probably doesn't meet the underwriting guidelines.  
15 For the program.

16          Q     I'm going to show you a document that is a  
17 duplicate of a document that's already in evidence but it's  
18 marked with a separate number. 24.4. Could you identify  
19 what that document is?

20          A     The HUD-1.

21          Q     For what property?

22          A     735 Burden Avenue, Troy, New York.

23          Q     All right. Do you recall testifying about  
24 this document before?

25          A     Yes.

1                   MR. OLMSTED: All right. I'd like to move the  
2 admission of Exhibit 24.4, it's a duplicate, your Honor, of  
3 Exhibit 7.4, but it relates to Count 24.

4                   THE COURT: Any objection?

5                   MR. CASTILLO: No.

6                   THE COURT: Received.

7                   Q     Looking at that document and recalling your  
8 testimony with respect to the property at the sale at 735  
9 Burden Avenue, do you recall that testimony?

10                  A     Yes.

11                  Q     Was that HUD-1 true or false?

12                  A     False.

13                  Q     In what way?

14                  A     The borrower did not bring to the table or the  
15 closing \$17,177. Instead they received cash, I don't recall  
16 the amount.

17                  Q     And is the purchase price correct?

18                  A     No.

19                  Q     And is that meaningful?

20                  A     Yes.

21                  Q     Okay. Just a moment.

22                                 If I can just have one second, your Honor.

23                                 I have no further questions of this witness.

24                  THE COURT: All right. We'll take a recess at  
25 this time, members of the jury.

1                   THE CLERK: Court stands in recess.

2                   (Court in recess, 3:12 p.m. to 3:36 p.m.)

3                   (Open Court, Jury Out.)

4                   THE COURT: All set? You ready to cross-exam?

5                   MR. CASTILLO: Yes, Judge.

6                   THE COURT: All right. Get the jury.

7                   Witness, come back up.

8                   (Jury Present.)

9                   THE COURT: Okay, we're all set. Okeydoke,  
10 Mr. Castillo.

11                  MR. CASTILLO: Thank you.

12                  CROSS-EXAMINATION BY MR. CASTILLO:

13                  Q      Good afternoon, sir.

14                  A      Hello.

15                  Q      As I understand your testimony, sir, you're  
16 the founding partner, founding person of BNC Mortgage, is  
17 that right?

18                  A      I was one of the founding members.

19                  Q      What does BNC stand for?

20                  A      Nothing really, except for it was kind of a  
21 play on B and C paper, B and C.

22                  Q      Doesn't stand for anything, the letter B and  
23 the letter C doesn't stand for anything?

24                  A      No.

25                  THE COURT: I'm still --

1           A     B and C Paper, so we were a sub-prime  
2 originator so conforming paper is also called A paper a lot  
3 of times, so it's B and C paper, we produced B and C paper.

4           Q     So the name somehow --

5           THE COURT: Go ahead.

6           Q     So the name somehow referred to the fact that  
7 BNC specifically was a sub-prime lender, correct?

8           A     Correct.

9           Q     And a sub-prime lender is different than a  
10 prime lender, correct?

11          A     Correct.

12          Q     And the prime lender is the type of lender  
13 that has very strict requirements I shall say for the  
14 processing and approving of loan applications; is that fair  
15 to say?

16          A     No, I would say that they're the same  
17 requirements, they just have different underwriting  
18 guidelines.

19          Q     Okay. The underwriting guidelines for a  
20 sub-prime lender are looser and less strict than those of a  
21 prime lender, would you agree with that?

22          A     Correct.

23          Q     And the -- you mentioned in your testimony  
24 that one type of requirement, or one type of approach in the  
25 sub-prime lending process is something called stated income,

1           correct?

2           A      Yes.

3           Q      And BNC did utilize stated income as one of  
4       the processes for loan applicants, is that right?

5           A      Borrowers that only had stated income could  
6       qualify for several loan programs.

7           Q      Right. And BNC had those type of loan  
8       programs, correct?

9           A      Yes.

10          Q      And stated income basically means, sir, that  
11       the applicant for the loan says, this is how much money I  
12       have, and your company will accept that statement, is that  
13       right?

14          A      They basically say this is how much money I  
15       make. This is what my income level is.

16          Q      And based upon that statement, you would  
17       accept that statement, correct?

18          A      You, the underwriter would look at  
19       reasonableness for the occupation of that person.

20          Q      But would not require things like pay stubs or  
21       even income tax returns, correct?

22          MR. OLMSTED: Your Honor, I just object to the  
23       line of questioning because it's not relating to these  
24       mortgages --

25          THE COURT: Oh, I think it's just

1 informational. You may proceed.

2 Q Correct?

3 A Yes, that's what stated is.

4 Q Now, sir, the process for applying for a loan  
5 from BNC Mortgage would require a borrower to send to your  
6 company certain documents, is that fair to say?

7 A They would send them through their broker.

8 Q Okay. But BNC Mortgage would get documents  
9 that related to the borrower from some person whether it's  
10 the borrower directly or the broker, correct?

11 A Correct.

12 Q And one of those documents that would be  
13 relevant and important for the processing of a loan  
14 application by BNC Mortgage would be the contract for the  
15 purchase of that property, correct?

16 A Yes.

17 Q Because you would look to the price that's  
18 reflected in the contract for the purchase of property in  
19 determining what loan amount might be considered to be  
20 approved, correct?

21 A Yes.

22 Q And in the course of your testimony here  
23 today, you were shown a lot of documents, right?

24 A Yes.

25 Q And in fact prior to your testimony today, in

1 preparation for your testimony today, you reviewed a lot of  
2 documents, correct?

3 A Correct.

4 Q And did you bring files with you that relate  
5 to these loans of the various people that you've testified to  
6 here today?

7 A No.

8 Q All the documents that you looked at were  
9 documents that were provided to you by representative of the  
10 government, is that right?

11 A Yes.

12 Q Now I noticed that in your testimony today,  
13 and I'm gonna make a general statement about the various  
14 persons that you've testified to and the various properties  
15 that you testified about. You were shown contracts for the  
16 purchase of those various properties that were lower in price  
17 than the loan that BNC approved, correct?

18 A Yes.

19 Q Did you have occasion to look at the actual  
20 contract, the one that BNC would have received either from  
21 the borrower, on behalf of the borrower from the broker in  
22 approving the various loans that you've testified about here  
23 today?

24 A I don't understand the question.

25 Q Okay. With respect to all the people that you

1 talked about, those are people that BNC received loan  
2 applications from, correct?

3 A Yes.

4 Q And ultimately loans that were approved,  
5 correct?

6 A Yes.

7 Q And with respect to every single one of those  
8 borrowers that you talked about and the properties that they  
9 purchased, BNC would have received a copy of the contract for  
10 the purchase of the property that pertained to that  
11 particular transaction, correct?

12 A Yes.

13 Q Did you look at those contracts, the actual  
14 contracts that BNC received in preparation for your  
15 testimony?

16 A The only contracts I saw is the ones that were  
17 presented to me today.

18 Q In addition to the actual contract for the  
19 purchase of the property in question, you would have  
20 additionally received other documents from the borrower on  
21 behalf of the borrower in determining whether to approve the  
22 loan application, correct?

23 A Yes.

24 Q And one of the processes that would have been  
25 followed is that a credit check would have been done of the

1 applicant, correct?

2 A Yes, we would have, we would have received a  
3 credit report from the broker, and we also would have pulled  
4 our own credit report.

5 Q Okay. That's an important piece of  
6 information in determining whether or not to approve a loan,  
7 correct?

8 A Yes.

9 Q You would have also looked to receive  
10 information about the value of the appraisal of the  
11 particular property that the borrower was looking to  
12 purchase, correct?

13 A Yes.

14 Q That would be information that would be  
15 pertinent in deciding whether or not to approve a loan,  
16 correct?

17 A Yes.

18 Q That's all information that you receive in  
19 determining whether or not to approve a loan, correct?

20 A Pardon me, I didn't hear the --

21 Q That type of information and the other  
22 information you receive is all designed to give you all the  
23 information you need so that you could decide whether or not  
24 to approve the loan, correct?

25 A Yes.

1           Q     And you don't contact a settlement agent --  
2 when I say you, I don't mean you personally but a settlement  
3 agent, a lawyer isn't contacted in order to make his office  
4 available for that particular transaction until your company  
5 has already decided in the first instance to approve the  
6 loan, correct?

7           A     Yes, that's correct.

8           Q     The lawyer, whoever that lawyer is that is  
9 contracted with to be the settlement agent, isn't involved in  
10 that initial process of deciding whether or not to approve  
11 the loan or not, isn't that right?

12          A     That's correct.

13          Q     Now, your company has computers, right?

14          A     BNC had computers.

15          Q     Yes.

16          A     Yes.

17          Q     And you would, as a company, maintain records  
18 of all borrowers, correct?

19          A     Yes.

20          Q     And it is not necessarily unusual for your  
21 company to receive more than one loan application from the  
22 same borrower, correct?

23          A     That's correct.

24          Q     But if you did receive more than one loan  
25 application from the same borrower, you would take that

1 information into account, correct?

2 A The -- oh, absolutely, yes.

3 Q In other words, and I'm sorry I wasn't clear  
4 in that question. For example, if a man like Brian Haskins  
5 applies and gets approved for loan number one, right?

6 A Yes.

7 Q And then applies for loan number two, in  
8 determining whether to approve loan number two, you will look  
9 at whatever information you received regarding loan number  
10 one, correct?

11 A Probably not.

12 Q No?

13 A We probably look at a completely new loan  
14 file. The only thing we look at is to make sure there's not  
15 too many loans to Brian Haskell [sic] because we can't sell  
16 them if there's over a certain number.

17 Q Okay. So it would have been normal, ordinary,  
18 and routine for your company to at least make note and  
19 consider whether a borrower already has a loan with your  
20 company, is that fair to say?

21 A Absolutely.

22 Q And if that borrower, that same borrower  
23 applies for loan number three, you will consider loans number  
24 one and two, correct?

25 A I don't know what you mean by consider.

1           Q     Well, you would want to take into  
2 consideration because you've already said that you are  
3 selling these loans, correct?

4           A     Yes.

5           Q     So you would take into consideration the fact  
6 that the same borrower has two loans, correct?

7           A     It would actually be more of a negative than a  
8 positive.

9           Q     A negative meaning what?

10          A     We would tend to, as one borrower had too many  
11 loans with us, we would not want to make any more loans.

12          Q     Okay.

13          A     Unless we had other buyers to -- I'm sorry,  
14 buyers of the loans to sell them to.

15          Q     Now do your requirements change at all when  
16 you have the same borrower applying for a subsequent loan?

17          A     Not really.

18          Q     Do you get any stricter in your scrutiny or  
19 review of the loan application?

20          A     No.

21          Q     Okay. And you know from the course of your  
22 testimony today that, I'm talking specifically now about  
23 Brian Haskins, that at least from your testimony here today,  
24 he had four loans with your company, correct?

25          A     Yes.

1           Q     That's information you were aware of, correct?

2           A     I wasn't aware till I testified today.

3           Q     Okay. Well, your company, at the time that he  
4 applied for loan number two, would have been aware of the  
5 fact that Haskins already had a loan with your company,  
6 correct?

7           A     Yes.

8           Q     And your company would have been aware of the  
9 fact when he applied for loan number three that he had  
10 already had two loans with your company, correct?

11          A     Yes.

12          Q     And your company would have been aware when he  
13 applied for loan number four that he already had three loans  
14 with your company, is that fair to say?

15          A     Yes.

16          Q     Are you able to tell us now if, in the case of  
17 Brian Haskins with those four loans that were approved,  
18 whether or not those were stated income loans or some other  
19 type of loans?

20          A     No.

21          Q     According to your testimony, Mr. Monahan,  
22 Mr. Haskins was approved for a loan for \$82,800 in connection  
23 with the purchase of 526 North Brandywine Avenue in  
24 Schenectady, New York; remember testifying about that?

25          A     Yes.

1                   Q     Mr. Haskins was also loaned by your company  
2     \$76,500, in connection with his purchase of 735 Burden Avenue  
3     in Troy, New York; do you remember testifying about that?

4                   A     Pardon me, what street number, I mean street?

5                   Q     735 Burden Avenue, Troy, New York.

6                   A     Yes.

7                   Q     And that loan was \$76,500, do you recollect  
8     that?

9                   A     Roughly, yes.

10                  Q     Okay. And Mr. Haskins was given another loan  
11     by your company for \$70,000 in connection with his purchase  
12     of 5 Backus Street, Schenectady, New York; remember  
13     testifying about that?

14                  A     Yes.

15                  Q     Mr. Haskins was also approved for an \$85,500  
16     loan in connection with his purchase of 395 Livingston  
17     Avenue, Albany, New York; do you remember testifying about  
18     that?

19                  A     Yes, I believe so.

20                  Q     And you recollect from your testimony that all  
21     of those loans were purchased close in time, those loans were  
22     approved close in time?

23                  A     Yes.

24                  Q     Now you testified, Mr. Monahan, that the HUD-1  
25     is an important document in terms of your company's lending

1 of money to potential borrowers, is that right?

2 A Yes.

3 Q And when you received a HUD-1 form in  
4 connection with any transaction, what does your company do  
5 with the HUD-1 form?

6 A What do they do? They make sure, they make  
7 sure that it's -- they make sure that the HUD-1 reflects  
8 what's been approved for the loan, including fees, interest  
9 rate, the loan amount, and fees and charges is very important  
10 because some are going to brokers, some, you know, obviously  
11 property tax, et cetera, et cetera.

12 Q So your normal course and practice at BNC was  
13 upon receipt of the HUD-1 form, for somebody in your company  
14 to review the HUD-1 form, correct?

15 A Oh, absolutely. There's the pre-HUD-1,  
16 though, and the HUD-1 because we would fund the loan based  
17 upon the pre-HUD-1 and then when the HUD-1 came in, we had to  
18 make sure it matched the pre-HUD-1 and that it matched what  
19 we were funding.

20 Q I see. So your company actually did two  
21 reviews in relation to the HUD forms. You did the review of  
22 the preliminary HUD, correct? Yes?

23 A Yes. Yes, at funding.

24 Q And then you did the review of the, I'll call  
25 it the final HUD, correct?

1           A     Yes, at post-funding.

2           Q     Okay, thank you. So pre-funding and  
3 post-funding, you would review the HUD form, correct?

4           A     Yes.

5           Q     And if you -- when I say you now I mean your  
6 company, your company upon review post-funding of the HUD  
7 form noticed any type of irregularity, if you noticed  
8 something that didn't make sense or jibe with whatever the  
9 loan was all about, your company would take some action,  
10 correct?

11          A     Yes, that was very unusual.

12          Q     And action you might take would be to contact  
13 at least the settlement agent, correct?

14          A     Yes.

15          Q     And perhaps other persons, correct?

16          A     Yes. We might even unwind the loan.

17          Q     What does that mean?

18          A     You basically defund the loan. I mean because  
19 it was -- it was incorrect.

20          Q     Okay.

21               THE COURT: What's the number, Counsel?

22               MR. CASTILLO: 7.4, your Honor.

23          Q     Mr. Monahan, you can see that?

24          A     I can't read it but I can see it.

25          Q     Now, the purchase price, first of all --

1                   THE COURT: I think, they can bring it up  
2 closer, he can magnify it, if there's an area in particular  
3 you're talking about.

4                   MR. CASTILLO: Okay.

5                   THE COURT: Like if there's a line number,  
6 101, 203, whatever.

7                   MR. CASTILLO: All right, thank you, Judge.

8                   Q Tell me if you can tell who the borrower is  
9 from what you can see. If not I'll have him magnify it. Oh,  
10 okay. Who's the borrower?

11                  A Brian Haskins.

12                  Q And what's the property address?

13                  A 735 Burden Avenue, Troy, New York.

14                  Q And what's the purchase price and the loan  
15 amount in connection with this transaction?

16                  A I can't see those. They're actually -- should  
17 be on the other page. I still can't read it. Sorry. The  
18 sales price, 65,000?

19                  THE COURT: 85.

20                  A 85? It's not clear.

21                  Q And what's the loan amount, please?

22                  A 76,500.

23                  Q Now if you could magnify the second page,  
24 specifically the top, top three lines. Now, can you see the  
25 purchase price on the second page of Exhibit 7.4?

1 A No. On the second page, no.

Q See that line, 700?

3 A Yes.

4 Q And what's the purchase price reflecting on  
5 the second page of 7.4?

6 A I'm assuming it says 85,000.

7 Q Okay. And that's the same price that was on  
8 the first page of 7.4, correct?

9 A      Correct.

10 Q Now if you could I'd like to --

11 THE COURT: Counsel, where are you pointing to  
12 right now?

13 MR. CASTILLO: Line 700 on the second page of  
14 Exhibit 7. --

15 THE COURT: Oh, I see up here at the top.

16 Q You agree that it does say \$85,000?

17 THE COURT: 85,000.

18 A Yes.

19 Q Okay.

20 MR. CASTILLO: Just have one moment, Judge,  
21 please.

22 (A discussion was held off the record.)

23 Q Let me show you what's -- may I approach the  
24 witness, Judge?

25 THE COURT: Yes.

1                   Q     Let me show you what's premarked as Government  
2 Exhibit 7.2. Exhibit 7.2 is a HUD-1 form, is that right?

3                   A     Yes.

4                   Q     And the borrower reflected on 7.2 is Brian  
5 Haskins, correct?

6                   A     Yes.

7                   Q     And the property that's indicated on  
8 Exhibit 7.2, the HUD-1 form, is 735 Burden Avenue, Troy,  
9 New York, correct?

10                  A     Yes.

11                  Q     And the lender that's reflected on Exhibit 7.2  
12 is your company, BNC Mortgage, correct?

13                  A     Yes.

14                  MR. CASTILLO: I'm going to offer 7.2.

15                  THE COURT: Any objection?

16                  MR. OLMSTED: None, your Honor.

17                  THE COURT: Received. 7.2. Wasn't there  
18 already testimony --

19                  MR. OLMSTED: No, your Honor, this is the  
20 second of the two HUDs.

21                  THE COURT: Oh, excuse me.

22                  MR. OLMSTED: And we obtained this not from  
23 BNC, but from the seller who then made a copy of it. That's  
24 why we couldn't put it in through this witness.

25                  THE COURT: Guess what? It's in.

1                   MR. OLMSTED: But that's -- I couldn't put it  
2 in.

3                   Q     Now sir, are you able to see this document?

4                   A     Yes.

5                   Q     Exhibit 7.2. And the contract price that's  
6 reflected on this HUD form, Exhibit 7.2 is 35,000, correct?

7                   A     Yes.

8                   Q     And the other form that we were just talking  
9 about just before this one, which is Exhibit 7.4 reflected a  
10 contract price of 85,000, correct?

11                  A     Yes. And then this one on line 700 said  
12 85,000 also.

13                  Q     Yeah, I was going to get to that.

14                  A     Oh.

15                  Q     Can you turn to the second page. Can you  
16 highlight line 700, please? Now Mr. Monahan, as you already  
17 said, line 700 of page 2 of Exhibit 7.2 indicates that the  
18 purchase price is 85,000, correct?

19                  A     Yes.

20                  Q     Contradicting the first page which indicates  
21 the purchase price is 35,000, correct?

22                  A     Yes.

23                  Q     And if your company had received this  
24 Exhibit 7.2, someone at your company would have taken some  
25 action, is that fair to say?

1           A     I would hope so.

2           Q     Okay.

3                 THE COURT: Which exhibit number?

4                 MR. CASTILLO: This is 10.4, Judge.

5                 You recall testifying previously about this  
6 exhibit, 10.4, correct?

7           A     10.4?

8           Q     Yes.

9           A     I believe so.

10          Q     Let's go back to the beginning. Highlight the  
11 top portion showing the borrower and the address. Do you  
12 recall testifying about Exhibit 10.4 previously involving  
13 this loan by Brian Haskins for a property located at 5 Backus  
14 Street, Schenectady, New York?

15          A     Yes.

16          Q     And this was a loan that was granted by your  
17 company, correct?

18          A     Yes.

19          Q     Could you highlight line 100, please. And the  
20 contract price in connection with this transaction is  
21 \$70,000, correct?

22          A     Yes.

23          Q     Turn to the second page, please. Line 700.

24                 THE COURT: This is on 5 Backus Street, right,  
25 Schenectady?

1                   MR. CASTILLO: Yes, your Honor.

2                   Q     And Mr. Monahan, page 2 of Exhibit 10.4 and  
3 specifically line 700, consistent with the first page,  
4 reflects a purchase price of 70,000, correct?

5                   A     Yes. Excuse me, yes.

6                   Q     Could you turn to 10.2, please.

7                   MR. OLMSTED: That's also not in.

8                   MR. CASTILLO: Approach the witness, Judge.

9                   I'm going to hand you what's marked for  
10 identification as Government Exhibit 10.2. Now Exhibit 10.2  
11 is another HUD-1 form, correct?

12                  A     Yes.

13                  Q     And it reflects the borrower that we've been  
14 talking about, Brian Haskins, correct?

15                  A     Yes.

16                  Q     And it relates to that same address, 5 Backus  
17 Street, correct?

18                  A     Yes.

19                  Q     And that's a loan approved by your company,  
20 BNC Mortgage, correct?

21                  A     No.

22                  Q     No?

23                  A     No, the lender is Sovereign Bank.

24                  Q     Okay, I'll take that back then. You did  
25 approve the loan on 5 Backus Street that we just talked

1 about, though, right?

2 A I would have to see the HUD-1 that I testified  
3 about before.

4 Q You want to see it again?

5 A The one that showed -- yes.

6 Q Can you put up 10.4, please.

7 A Yes, that one's BNC Mortgage so obviously one  
8 was -- one says BNC Mortgage, one says Sovereign Bank.

9 Q Okay.

10 MR. CASTILLO: Judge, may I have a moment,  
11 please.

12 THE COURT: Yes.

13 (Pause in Proceedings.)

14 Q Mr. Monahan, you recall testifying about a  
15 transaction involving a Rosely Dafna, correct?

16 A Yes.

17 Q And --

18 THE COURT: Is it Dafina or Dafna? I thought  
19 it was Dafina.

20 MR. OLMSTED: Dafna.

21 THE COURT: Dafna?

22 MR. OLMSTED: D-a-f-n-a.

23 THE COURT: Okay.

24 Q Are you able to see Exhibit 6.2?

25 A Yes.

1                           MR. OLMSTED: That's in by stip, that came  
2 from their office.

3                           Q     Okay. And Exhibit 6.2 refers to a transaction  
4 involving a borrower by the name of Rosely Dafna, correct?

5                           A     Yes.

6                           Q     Regarding a property known as 33 Jefferson  
7 Street, Troy, New York, correct?

8                           A     Yes.

9                           Q     Where your company BNC Mortgage gave a loan,  
10 correct?

11                          A     Yes, according to -- mm-hmm.

12                          Q     And could you show line 100. And this shows,  
13 line 100 on Exhibit 6.2 shows a contract price of 40,000,  
14 correct?

15                          A     Yes.

16                          Q     Turn to the second page. Highlight line 700.  
17 Can you see line 700 on page 2 of Exhibit 6.2?

18                          A     Yes, I see there 75,000 or 78,000.

19                          Q     Seventy something thousand?

20                          A     Yes.

21                          Q     Way more than the amount listed on the  
22 contract price, line 100 on page 1 of Exhibit 6.2, correct?

23                          A     Yes.

24                          Q     Can you put up 6.4, please. Are you able to  
25 see Exhibit 6.4?

1           A     I can see it is a BNC Mortgage loan.

2           Q     Okay.

3           A     Contract sales price is roughly what was on  
4 the last one on line, I believe 700, is that 700?

5           Q     You can see that 6.4 relates to the same  
6 borrower, Dafna, correct?

7           A     Yes.

8           Q     Same property, 33 Jefferson Street, Troy,  
9 New York, correct?

10          A     Yes.

11          Q     And that your company funded the loan,  
12 correct?

13          A     Yes.

14          Q     Excuse me, your company gave that loan,  
15 correct?

16          A     Yes.

17          Q     And highlight line 100, please. You can see  
18 that line 100 on Exhibit 6.4 reflects a contract sales price  
19 of 75,000, correct?

20          A     Yes.

21          Q     Turn to the second page, please. Line 700.  
22 And you can see that line 700 on the second page of  
23 Exhibit 6.4 reflects, consistent with the first page, a  
24 contract price of 75,000, correct?

25          A     Yes.

1           Q     Are you able to see Exhibit 6.4 and 6.2, sir?

2           A     I can -- I can barely make out the numbers but  
3 they're both BNC Mortgage loans. One has a contract sales  
4 price of 40,000, one has one at 75,000.

5           Q     Now you can see by looking at the top portion  
6 of Exhibit 6.4 and 6.2 that they relate to the same borrower,  
7 Dafna, correct?

8           A     Yes.

9           Q     Same property, 33 Jefferson Street, Troy,  
10 New York, correct?

11          A     Yes.

12          Q     And loan given by your company, BNC Mortgage,  
13 correct?

14          A     I would believe the one on the left would  
15 probably -- I think that's a loan number under the borrower's  
16 name. But both HUD-1s reflect that it would be a BNC  
17 Mortgage loan.

18          Q     And would you go to 100 on both. And  
19 Mr. Monahan, looking at line 100 of the second page of both  
20 Exhibit 6.4 and 6.2, you can see -- sorry, I said line 100,  
21 line 101, you can see that the contract price on Exhibit 6.4  
22 is 75,000, correct?

23          A     Yes.

24          Q     And the contract price on line 101 for  
25 Exhibit 6.2 is 40,000, correct?

1           A     Yes.

2           Q     Involving the same borrower, correct?

3           A     Yes.

4           Q     Same property location, correct?

5           A     Yes.

6           Q     Same loan, right, at least your company is  
7 reflected as being involved in --

8           A     As the lender, yes.

9           Q     Thank you. Turn to Exhibit 8.4, please.

10           MR. OLMSTED: 8.2 is not stipulated because we  
11 got it from the seller.

12           Q     Mr. Monahan, you were shown in connection with  
13 the different transactions that you've testified about copies  
14 of various checks that appear to be issued by the law firm of  
15 Michael Bouchard, correct?

16           A     Yes.

17           Q     And you were shown checks in connection with  
18 the various transactions that you testified to, checks that  
19 were actually issued to the buyer, borrowers, correct?

20           A     Yes.

21           Q     And I think you said that that would be  
22 information that you would not find to be appropriate in  
23 connection with any of the transactions that you've talked  
24 about, correct?

25           A     Correct.

1           Q     And the payments of these moneys to the  
2 purchase of borrower and different loan transactions that  
3 you've talked about, those are actual checks written by, or  
4 on behalf of the Michael Bouchard Law Firm, correct?

5           A     That's what it -- they appear.

6           Q     That's what it looked like to you?

7           A     They're copies.

8           Q     You looked at those before you testified,  
9 right?

10          A     No, not before I testified.

11          Q     You just saw them while you were the witness  
12 stand?

13          A     I probably saw one or two.

14          Q     Okay. You weren't shown any documents that  
15 would have demonstrated to you that there were payments made  
16 by the Bouchard firm to some of the borrowers that you've  
17 testified to in cash, in actual U.S. currency, correct?

18          A     Correct.

19          Q     You weren't shown any documents or any other  
20 evidence that the borrowers in the transactions that you've  
21 testified to received moneys, whatever the amounts were, in  
22 some underhanded way, correct? What I mean by that is you  
23 were shown checks?

24          A     Yes, I was always shown checks, that the  
25 checks that we all saw today.

1           Q     Yeah, with the name right on top in big bold  
2 letters Michael Bouchard Law Firm, correct?

3           A     Correct.

4           Q     Now BNC Mortgage, is it in existence today?

5           A     No.

6           Q     When it did it cease to be in existence?

7           A     I believe, I wasn't there when they -- when it  
8 was closed down by -- I believe Lehman Brothers closed it  
9 sometime in 2007.

10          Q     When did you leave the company?

11          A     I left, I stayed with Lehman, I transferred to  
12 another Lehman Brothers company at the end of 2006.

13          Q     Now, that, Mr. Moynihan, sometime in 2005,  
14 going into 2006 and continuing, was the start of a whole  
15 series of lawsuits that were initiated against BNC Mortgage  
16 over their lending practices, isn't that right?

17          A     I do not believe that.

18          Q     You don't believe that, you're aware of the  
19 lawsuits though, aren't you?

20          A     Absolutely not.

21          Q     You're not aware of the lawsuits?

22          A     No.

23          Q     Not aware of any of the litigations?

24          A     Nope.

25          Q     Haven't read about them?

1           A     Against BNC Mortgage, absolutely not.

2           Q     You haven't seen any of the --

3           A     No.

4           Q     -- litigation reflected on the internet even,  
5 or on Google, anything, you haven't looked at any of that?

6           A     You can look at Google and people criticize  
7 Lehman -- sorry, BNC.

8           Q     I'm not talking about criticize.

9           A     I would --

10          Q     No, you're telling me no?

11          A     Yes, absolutely.

12          Q     All right. Now sir, I just asked you about  
13 litigation against BNC Mortgage and you said you're not  
14 aware?

15          A     Yes, that's correct.

16          Q     Are you aware of litigation against Lehman  
17 Brothers because of their association with BNC Mortgage?

18           MR. OLMSTED: I object to the relevance of  
19 this question, your Honor.

20           THE COURT: Sustained.

21           MR. CASTILLO: May I just have one moment,  
22 Judge, please.

23           That's all I have, Judge.

24           THE COURT: All right, sir. Any further?

25           MR. OLMSTED: May I just consult briefly?

1                   THE COURT: Yes.

2                   MR. OLMSTED: I have no redirect, your Honor.

3                   THE COURT: You're all set, sir.

4                   THE WITNESS: Thank you.

5                   (Whereupon the witness was excused.)

6                   THE COURT: Next witness for the government.

7                   MR. OLMSTED: United States calls Tom  
8 Disonell. He's outside.

9                   THE CLERK: Stand right here, please. State  
10 your full name for the record and spell your last name.

11                   THE WITNESS: Francis T. Disonell.

12 D-i-s-o-n-e-l-l.

13

14                   F R A N C I S    D I S O N E L L , called  
15 as a witness and being duly sworn, testifies as  
16 follows:

17                   DIRECT EXAMINATION BY MR. OLMSTED:

18                   Q       Mr. Disonell, good afternoon. Could you  
19 introduce yourself to the jury, your name and whereabout you  
20 live.

21                   A       My name is Tom Disonell and I'm from Albany,  
22 New York.

23                   Q       What's your occupation?

24                   A       I'm self-employed.

25                   Q       All right. Doing what kind of work?

1           A     Right now I'm doing distribution in the city.

2           Q     City being?

3           A     New York City. I have a food distribution  
4 route right this second.

5           Q     Do you know Michael Bouchard?

6           A     I do.

7           Q     Could you point him out to the jury?

8           A     He's sitting right there.

9                   MR. OLMSTED: I'd like the record to indicate  
10          that he has identified the defendant, your Honor.

11                  THE COURT: The record will reflect.

12                  Q     Have you ever been involved in the real estate  
13 business?

14                  A     Yes, sir.

15                  Q     What made you want to enter that line of  
16 business?

17                  A     To make money.

18                  Q     What were you doing before you did real  
19 estate?

20                  A     I was in the Marines for six years and then I  
21 was working with the United States Postal Service as a HR  
22 manager for about another six years.

23                  Q     And what stimulated you to want to start  
24 getting into real estate?

25                  A     There was just a buzz about real estate and I

1           bought a course called Carleton Sheets no-money-down course.

2           Q     And what did that tell you?

3           A     It told me I could buy properties with no  
4         money down and walk away with cash at closing.

5           Q     And so you decided that you wanted to do that?

6           A     Sounded like a really good idea.

7           Q     So what did you do?

8           A     I studied the course for a couple of weeks,  
9         went out, found a property, bought it, made \$18,000, had no  
10        clue what I did, called my best friend and said --

11          Q     Who's your best friend?

12          A     My best friend is Matt Kupic.

13           THE COURT: Matt who?

14           THE WITNESS: Kupic, sir. K-u-p-i-c.

15          Q     How do you know him?

16          A     We played baseball together since we're seven  
17         and we've just been friends since, you know, sports, went to  
18         high school together, everything.

19          Q     So how did you arrange to buy a property, get  
20         \$18,000 at closing?

21          A     My first deal I used a seller second mortgage  
22         which they term a silent seller second mortgage.

23          Q     Could you explain to the jury how that works?

24          A     In a nutshell, you promise to pay -- did my  
25         mike just go? You promise to pay a seller 20, 30,000, they

1 hold it on a second mortgage, but then at closing, you just  
2 satisfy it, the seller says I just want 80,000 so they  
3 satisfy a second mortgage and then there's proceeds left in  
4 the closing which you pay the bank closing costs and then  
5 there's cash left over. It was kind of like doing a cash-out  
6 refinance at purchase.

7 Q Okay. And does the bank that's lending you  
8 the money know you're doing that?

9 A Um, well, I believe they do but that's at a  
10 much higher level so I would say --

11 Q Does the bank --

12 A -- the bank, it's not disclosed on the HUD-1  
13 statement.

14 Q So after you got -- you called your friend  
15 Matt Kupic and said what?

16 A Said they just -- I just made \$18,000 buying a  
17 house, and we got together and he was like, do you think we  
18 can do it again? I was like, I have no idea. And then  
19 within probably 60 days I bought 10 or 12 houses, Matt bought  
20 10 or 12 houses, and we thought we had stumbled onto  
21 something, you know, proprietary that him and I figured out  
22 and we had a real business that can make a lot of money.

23 Q And how did you buy those houses?

24 A Everything from using my baseball card  
25 collection as collateral to just finding sellers that were

1 creative, you know.

2 Q When you say creative, what does that mean?

3 A Basically to sum it up, the seller wanted X  
4 for his house at closing and didn't really care what else  
5 happened, as long as they got their money, they were  
6 satisfied.

7 Q And so with respect to all of those  
8 transactions, there were side deals that were not disclosed  
9 on the HUD-1; is that a fair way to say it?

10 A Sometimes the seller seconds were disclosed  
11 but, you know, they were supposed to be real seller seconds,  
12 they were actually satisfied at the closing table which, yes,  
13 the banks didn't know what was happening, so -- so I'd say,  
14 yes, every deal there was something going on that was not  
15 disclosed on the HUD-1 statement.

16 THE COURT: What do you call, the HUD what?

17 THE WITNESS: It's called the HUD-1, sir.

18 THE COURT: Oh, yeah, right. I understand.

19 Q Did you decide to start a company?

20 A Um, I did -- I didn't decide to, actually Matt  
21 and I, Matt was a state employee, once again, I had like 12,  
22 13 years in the federal government, I had my house paid off,  
23 my cars, my furniture, was married, my son was about  
24 one-and-a-half years old, and we stopped because we had  
25 everything. We had no desire of being, you know, realtors or

1 real estate brokers and we stopped and then one of my  
2 attorneys called me and said, you know, what are you guys  
3 doing because there was -- obviously the business stopped  
4 coming into their office.

5 Q And was that Michael Bouchard?

6 A That wasn't Michael, that was another attorney  
7 of ours.

8 Q All right.

9 A And he -- and then we were like we don't like  
10 being landlords, we have 30 houses now and a hundred tenants  
11 and we just didn't like being landlords. So one attorney  
12 that we had done a lot of deals with, he was like, let's open  
13 up a consulting firm and let's just start teaching people  
14 what you and Matt are doing. So we opened a company called  
15 Real Estate Consultants and, you know, that was the -- that  
16 was the company.

17 Q All right. And what did that company do?

18 A Basically that same scenario, we taught people  
19 how to do what we were doing and we charged a consulting fee.

20 Q Okay. What did you teach them you were doing?

21 A Buying properties with no money down and  
22 putting cash in our pocket.

23 Q Okay. Could you just tell the jury how --  
24 what you would have said, say to the jury what you would have  
25 said to a potential customer or purchaser that Real Estate

1 Consultants was working with?

2           A Well, I mean at that time real estate was the  
3 buzz, and people heard of Carleton Sheets, it was on TV on  
4 every infomercial at night, it was there every single night.  
5 And in a nutshell, you know, we were -- we had bought the  
6 course and figured it out, and we were giving people the  
7 opportunity to really just work with somebody who did it. It  
8 was very simple, like do you want to do this, you know, would  
9 you rather go home and study Carleton Sheets course and fail  
10 or, you know, we're doing it.

11           Q And so what would you do as part of that  
12 process?

13           A Um, well, when me and Matt were getting going,  
14 we didn't have any money to start so we had to do things such  
15 as figure out how to collateralize baseball cards and every  
16 other scenario in the world to look like we had money to the  
17 banks, so in this particular scenario, we would make it very  
18 easy if you wanted to buy houses, and you came in, I'd say,  
19 here's \$50,000, go put it in our bank, open up an account,  
20 and you know, how many houses do you want, you want 5, 10,  
21 20? We'll find them for you.

22           Q And the \$50,000, what was that for?

23           A It was for everything from prepaids which  
24 would be homeowner's insurance, there was things you had to  
25 pay before you could close a house, but more specifically it

1 was so the banks would see you had money to buy properties  
2 because that was obviously a requirement by the banks and  
3 typically the people that wanted to get into this business,  
4 that was their biggest hurdle, they wanted to get into the  
5 business because they wanted to make money and they didn't  
6 have money. So --

7 Q And so you provided them money?

8 A Yeah, we would give them loans.

9 Q Then would you get a verification of deposit  
10 in their names?

11 A Yes.

12 Q And that would go as part of their loan  
13 application?

14 A Um --

15 Q To show --

16 A Yeah, I think they would do -- banks would do  
17 a verification of deposit at the application stage as well.  
18 They would probably have to show bank statements or something  
19 like that to the banks.

20 Q And then would you take your money back?

21 A No, we would take it back after the  
22 relationship -- by the end of the relationship they would  
23 have paid us plus consulting fees. So we would, you know,  
24 most -- everybody that we did business with bought multiple  
25 houses so we would just take our money back plus fees over

1 time.

2 Q And did you get into -- what is a repair  
3 rebate?

4 A Well, as we evolved --

5 Q Can you explain to them how you evolved,  
6 that's what I'm trying to get to.

7 A We started out with seller second mortgages  
8 and that means I would say I'm buying your house for 100,000,  
9 you're holding a \$20,000 seller second mortgage, but we would  
10 just rip that up at the closing table to my partner and I.  
11 My partner's an accountant so he was like, the people that  
12 are selling the houses are claiming they're selling them for  
13 100,000 but they're only getting 60. So one day the IRS is  
14 gonna come looking saying, you know, hey, you sold your house  
15 for a hundred, you owe capital gains on a hundred, not 60, so  
16 we saw it as a problem for our sellers. So we set down with  
17 our core attorneys, and Michael was not one of them in case  
18 you were gonna ask that next, and we decided to do this,  
19 seller rebate which the banks, we would request anything, if  
20 I was buying your house, it wouldn't be a repair, I would  
21 say, what do you want for your house, 100,000, I'll give you  
22 110 if you put on a new roof and then if you don't put on the  
23 new roof by the time we close, you're going to rebate that  
24 money back to me. So that would generate an inflated sales  
25 price, therefore then the banks would loan more money on the

1 sales price. And then we thought, well, with the rebate, it  
2 goes -- it made it all come back down to what the real deal  
3 was so if you took all the credits and the rebate, in our  
4 mind at the time, the seller was actually only showing on  
5 paper what he actually got, or she actually got, at closing.

6 Q So this different approach was designed to  
7 help the seller not have to pay capital gains, is that right?

8 A Yeah, it was simply just we thought we were  
9 protecting our sellers at the time. It had nothing to do  
10 with facilitating the deal because we were already doing the  
11 deals, you know, we were just trying to do them more  
12 legitimately.

13 Q Vis-a-vis the taxes, more legitimately as far  
14 as taxes is concerned?

15 A Yeah, we didn't want to hurt the buyers,  
16 sellers, didn't want to hurt anybody.

17 Q Let's go to the banks for a moment.

18 A Yep.

19 Q With respect to repair rebates, does that  
20 involve side deals that are not disclosed in the HUD-1?

21 A Well, I put a clause in our contract, an  
22 article 10 that said there would be a rebate at closing if  
23 the repairs and renovation -- if the renovations and upgrades  
24 weren't completed.

25 Q Right, but the HUD-1 that's disclosed, the

1       HUD-1 that's completed?

2           A     Yeah, I don't think the rebate ever made it to  
3     the HUD-1, absolutely not. It was a post-closing thing.

4           Q     So the banks were never told about that?

5           A     It was in the contract but it was -- I don't  
6     believe our seller rebate that happened at closing ever made  
7     the HUD-1.

8           Q     The HUD-1s that actually say how the money was  
9     spent, did they ever reflect the rebate --

10          A     No, sir, no, sir.

11          Q     So they were false, the HUD-1s?

12           MR. CASTILLO: Objection to the form of the  
13     question.

14           THE COURT: Overruled.

15          A     Um, I believe so. They were not fully  
16     disclosed.

17          Q     And how did you arrange to have the HUD-1s  
18     completed?

19          A     That was pretty much the role of the closing  
20     attorney.

21          Q     Did there come a time when you began to use  
22     Michael Bouchard as your closing attorney?

23          A     Yeah. I used Mike at closings from pretty  
24     much day one, you know, all the way back until he had a  
25     partner. He had a partner, I think his name was Chuck

1 Rosenstein, it was Rosenstein and Bouchard and they did some  
2 of our closings.

3 Q And these are the closings that you've just  
4 described?

5 A I believe he was involved in -- from the very  
6 beginning when it was seller seconds to rebates, you know,  
7 the entire evolution. As the closing attorney.

8 Q How did you meet with him -- I mean how did  
9 you meet him?

10 A I been trying to think of how I met Mike and I  
11 can't remember, but either our attorney referred him,  
12 referred us into his office or one of the other investors  
13 that we -- because it was like your competitors, you knew you  
14 were competitors and we would talk and they would know, they  
15 would just give you advice, like use this attorney, use this  
16 appraiser, use this home inspection company, use this, so it  
17 came one of those two ways, but I don't have a real  
18 recollection of how Mike and I met.

19 Q Did you describe to him what you were trying  
20 to do? How these transactions worked?

21 A In my initial deals, we had some discussions  
22 but it was -- I had other attorneys involved so what the  
23 attorneys talked about --

24 Q I'm just asking about what you talked about  
25 with Mike Bouchard over the years. Explain to the jury what

1 you told him about how you did these deals. Starting with  
2 the silent seller seconds, moving on to the repair rebates.

3 A Yeah, I can't specifically recollect a  
4 specific conversation I had with Mike about our seller  
5 seconds, about our seller rebates. Like I said, those are --  
6 were other attorneys that were giving me that legal advice.  
7 The only thing I can specifically say that I spoke to Mike  
8 about was much later in our relationship when Matt and I had  
9 decided not to do creative deals anymore.

10 Q And by creative deals, what do you mean by  
11 that?

12 A Just, um, I mean I guess I would have -- well,  
13 I'm trying to be polite by saying creative, but corrupt, you  
14 know, there was a time where corrupt, creative financing,  
15 Matt and I just came to the conclusion it was corrupt, it was  
16 illegal, we weren't disclosing to the banks, we -- it was  
17 just -- it was just a real culture of corruption and we were  
18 caught up in it and it was so -- the culture was so corrupt,  
19 it didn't look corrupt. You had to really, you had to really  
20 look for it. It was that bad. Everybody was doing it. I  
21 mean I would imagine a U.S. Attorney could walk into any  
22 attorney's office in Albany and pull a file and put someone  
23 in prison.

24 MR. CASTILLO: I'm going to object to that,  
25 Judge.

1                   THE COURT: Sustained. Disregard it, members  
2 of the jury.

3                   Q     All right. There came a time when you  
4 decided -- that you did have a conversation with Mike  
5 Bouchard on this subject?

6                   A     Yeah, um, well, when Matt and I got out of the  
7 consulting business teaching people how to buy and sell, we  
8 didn't really know what to do. We had quit our jobs, we had  
9 made a lot of money so we had relationships in real estate,  
10 so we just opened up a title company, we said we're gonna  
11 just do title.

12                  Q     And what was the name of the title company?

13                  A     Team Title Abstractors, so -- because I had a  
14 lot of relationships with lenders and bankers and realtors  
15 and mortgage officers and mortgage brokers, and they would  
16 send me a lot of business, and there was a mortgage broker,  
17 her name's Nickole Riley and she called me, you know, because  
18 I -- I was known to be a creative guy, I, you know, they  
19 called me for advice.

20                  Q     And when you say creative, is that fair to say  
21 that you're still being polite and you mean that you'll do  
22 deals that disguised the true transaction from the bank?

23                  A     Well, the end game was walk away with cash at  
24 closing, you know, so do I know today that it was completely  
25 corrupt? Yeah, so I was known to be corrupt.

1           Q     Okay.

2           A     So other corrupt people would call me and say,  
3 Tom, we're doing things, what do you think, and on this  
4 particular occasion, I got called and I had no idea, Nickole  
5 called me and said, she was doing business with these new  
6 guys and they were doing a ton of business.

7           Q     How did you know Nickole?

8           A     She was my loan officer, she was one of my  
9 loan officers.

10          Q     And what does that mean she did for you?

11          A     I would just send my customers, my consultant,  
12 my customers to her and she would do all their banking, she  
13 would do all their mortgages, I would just send them to her  
14 and Nickole facilitated all that.

15          Q     Before we go -- you're about to talk about PB  
16 Enterprises?

17          A     Yes.

18          Q     Before we go to PB Enterprises, I want to go  
19 through a series of transactions involving, excuse me, the  
20 Real Estate Consultants.

21          A     Okay.

22          Q     I'd like to show you Government Exhibit 1.10,  
23 previously marked as Government Exhibit 1.10 and it's  
24 admitted in evidence by stipulation. Can you ... Can you  
25 identify what that document is?

1           A     This is a HUD-1 statement, settlement  
2 statement.

3           Q     And who's -- what property does it relate to?

4           A     255 Fourth Street, Troy, New York.

5           Q     And who's the buyer?

6           A     Deryal Williams.

7           Q     Who's the seller?

8           A     John Donvito.

9           Q     Do you remember this transaction?

10          A     Deryal was one of my customers, he was one of  
11 our clients.

12          Q     Can you describe how he purchased properties?

13          A     He basically, we found him properties, he took  
14 out mortgages, he received cash at closing, we pretty much  
15 facilitated the whole deal. He just really inspected the  
16 properties and said yes or no. We probably lent Deryal money  
17 to buy properties.

18          Q     And when you say lent him money, does that  
19 mean you put money into his accounts to make it look like he  
20 had more money than he did?

21          A     Yeah, I would imagine we did that with Deryal.

22          Q     Do you remember doing that?

23          A     I don't remember specifically but it probably  
24 happened nine out of ten times, so --

25          Q     All right. Once it came time to purchase this

1 property, do you recall where the closing was?

2 A I don't physically recall but it says Bouchard  
3 Law Firm.

4 Q All right. I'd like you to turn to the third  
5 page of that document. Can you identify what that document  
6 is, if it's the one on the screen if you --

7 A Okay.

8 Q What is that document?

9 A Looks like, it looks like --

10 Q Who's handwriting is that?

11 A That's my handwriting.

12 Q So what is this? Tell the jury.

13 A This would be the proceeds of the money from  
14 closing and how I wanted them disbursed after closing.

15 Q And to whom did you give that?

16 A I would typically give this to Mike if I was  
17 in Michael's office.

18 Q Michael who?

19 A Michael Bouchard.

20 Q So who superintendent -- who handled the  
21 closings for Real Estate Consultants when you were doing  
22 these and for Team Title?

23 A We use a lot of settlement agents but this  
24 one, Mike, I had like four or five attorneys I worked with, I  
25 would let the buyers and sellers pick where they wanted to do

1           certain things so this one ended up in Mike's office.

2           Q     And this is your handwriting?

3           A     Yes, sir.

4           Q     And who did you give it to?

5           A     I mean I don't remember physically giving it  
6           to, but it would have, a lot of times --

7           Q     Well, explain to the jury how these closings  
8           came to happen. I mean you walk in, what happens?

9           A     I wouldn't go in the closing, I would kind of  
10          just wait for it to be over and then my job when it was over  
11          was just to make sure everybody was paid the way they were  
12          supposed to be paid.

13          Q     So you gave this list to whom?

14          A     Many times Michael.

15          Q     Okay. And each of the closings you would give  
16          them a comparable list?

17          A     Yeah, lot of times it would be, I'd have it  
18          worked out before closing but so much stuff changed at  
19          closing that they typically ended up, just meet me at the end  
20          working out numbers with everybody to make sure everything  
21          was covered and everybody was paid.

22          Q     And when you handed him this, what did he say?

23          A     He would probably just tell one of the girls  
24          to cut checks.

25          Q     All right. I'd like you to look at the checks

1       that are cut with respect to this closing, which are the  
2       following documents. Can you turn to the next page.

3       Actually can you put that up on the left and then pull the  
4       next pages up on the right or whatever, one side or the  
5       other. All right. What's the check on the left?

6           A     It looks like it's the title insurance payment  
7       to the title company, Central Abstract.

8           Q     And is that reflected in your handwritten list  
9       of how to cut checks?

10          A     Yes, it is.

11          Q     And what's the next check?

12          A     Check to Deryal Williams.

13          Q     And is that reflected in the way you asked the  
14       checks --

15          A     Yes, it is.

16          Q     Right here in the middle?

17          A     Yeah, I see it.

18          Q     All right. What's the next check?

19          A     That would be the check to the seller, that  
20       would be what the seller received at closing.

21          Q     And does that comport with what you said, the  
22       way the checks should be distributed?

23          A     Yes.

24          Q     Okay. What's the next check?

25          A     That would be a consulting, that would be a

1 fee that went to my partner.

2 Q All right. Matt Kupic?

3 A Yeah.

4 Q Does that comport with your handwritten list  
5 on how you wanted the checks cut?

6 A Yeah.

7 Q What's the next check?

8 A Another check to Matt.

9 Q And is that the same as you asked that be  
10 done?

11 A Yeah.

12 Q Okay. What's the next check?

13 A That would have been the fee paid to the  
14 mortgage broker.

15 THE COURT: Which amount are you talking about  
16 right now?

17 THE WITNESS: 2650. That's what I'm looking  
18 at on the screen, that's what I'm answering to.

19 Q Check to MEM Financial Solutions for \$2,650.  
20 Is that on your handwritten list?

21 A Yes, sir.

22 Q Top entry?

23 A Yes, sir.

24 Q What is the next check?

25 A Michael Bouchard. That would have been the

1 settlement fee, attorney fee.

2 Q And is that the second entry on the list?

3 A Yep.

4 Q What's the next check?

5 THE COURT: That's the 450, is that what that  
6 would be?

7 THE WITNESS: Yes, sir.

8 Q That's \$450.

9 A That would have been -- we paid people for  
10 finding the property so that would have been like a referral  
11 fee.

12 Q So this is to Property Locater by Diz?

13 A Yep.

14 Q Thousand dollars?

15 A Yep.

16 Q Does that appear in your handwritten --

17 A Yeah.

18 Q Okay. What's the next check?

19 A Sean Williams.

20 Q And how much is that check for?

21 A 7200.

22 Q And is that also as you directed?

23 A Yep. And Sean and Deryal were basically, it  
24 was, Sean -- Deryal was Sean's uncle and they were partners  
25 so some -- one time Deryal took a loan, then Sean took loans

1       but they were partners.

2           Q     Okay. What's the next check?

3           A     That would have been Thomas Disonell, that  
4       would have been fees to me.

5           Q     And is that the bottom?

6           A     Yeah.

7           Q     I'd like you to go back to the HUD-1 which was  
8       sent to the banks. The checks that you've just gone through,  
9       are they reflected in the HUD-1?

10          A     Not all of them.

11          Q     Are the checks to you and to Matt Kupic and to  
12       Sean Williams and to Deryal Williams, are they reflected in  
13       the HUD-1?

14          A     No.

15          Q     How much is reflected as having been paid to  
16       the seller in that HUD-1?

17          A     \$81,667 it looks like.

18          Q     How did you come to the figure of \$34,003 to  
19       John Donvito then in the actual checks?

20          A     That's what the actual deal was, that's what  
21       he actually received for his house. And I think if you -- on  
22       the HUD on the next page, if you looked at the government  
23       recording and transfer charges, I can't remember the  
24       calculations but I'd imagine they work out to that sales  
25       price as well, because the deed stamps and the mortgage tax

1       was done at the real sale price most of the time because  
2       obviously the higher one cost more money.

3           Q     Okay. Is it fair to say, or tell the jury,  
4       did you get the money you were expecting to get at the end of  
5       that closing?

6           A     Yes.

7           Q     Did the bank know that?

8           A     Absolutely not.

9           Q     Going back to the HUD-1, looking at the bottom  
10      left-hand corner of the first page of the HUD-1, it says that  
11      the buyer was to bring \$21,528.50 to the closing.

12          A     Yep.

13           THE COURT: Are you going to 1.10 now?

14           MR. OLMSTED: I am looking at the first page  
15      of 1.10.

16          A     Right down there, at the very end.

17           THE COURT: 21,528.50.

18          A     Yeah.

19          Q     Can you tell the jury what happened with  
20      respect to that entry?

21          A     Um, I can't tell the jury what happened with  
22      respect to that specific entry but typ --

23          Q     You had a business practice that you did with  
24      Deryal Williams, what was it?

25          A     Typically, depending on what the bank's

1 requirements were, we would either have brought in certified  
2 funds or just a personal check or, you know, one of those.

3 Q And what would happen to that check?

4 A It would be handed back to me after closing.

5 Q So anybody make a copy of it?

6 A I'd imagine it had to get faxed to the lender  
7 for approval.

8 Q So do you understand why you had to bring the  
9 check in in the first place?

10 A Yes, sir.

11 Q But in each instance, you kept the check after  
12 the closing?

13 A If I was the one who brought it in, yes, or  
14 had gave it to my customer to bring it in, yes.

15 Q All right. What's flash money? You ever use  
16 that phrase?

17 A I mean, to me flash money is you're just  
18 showing it but you're not giving it.

19 Q Was this flash money?

20 A Yes, sir.

21 Q Who gave you the checks that we've just been  
22 through?

23 A Who gave them to me?

24 Q Yes.

25 A My bank.

1 Q No, okay. I'm going back --

2 A Okay.

3 Q -- to the ones that you got at the end of the  
4 closing.

5 A It would probably be physically handing me the  
6 checks, you know, one of Mike's employees.

7 Q Did Michael Bouchard ever give you the checks?

8 A Sometimes.

9 Q What distinguished -- why would it sometimes  
10 be him and sometimes be his employees?

11 A I just think they were the paralegals, that  
12 was what they did, that was their job, they did the closing.

13 Q Did this match up with what you had asked  
14 Michael Bouchard to do before the closings?

15 A We had a really good relationship, I wouldn't  
16 even tell him this until right at -- as soon as the closing  
17 was over I would just walk in and say do this. It wasn't a  
18 lot of preparation, it was just cut the checks this way, it  
19 was known, he -- you know, it was just known that's what we  
20 did.

21 Q Okay. The jury doesn't know that, though,  
22 because they weren't around, so you have to explain this to  
23 them. How does that work?

24 A We just --

25 Q Just trying to get a picture.

1                   A     We did so many deals together, we just knew  
2     that at the end of my closings, I was going to walk in and  
3     give him a list of checks to cut, and as long as he only  
4     disbursed what the bank sent in, he just did what I asked him  
5     to do. If the bank sent in a hundred dollars and I told him  
6     break this hundred thousand up these 35 different ways, he  
7     would just do it.

8                   Q     Okay. Well then that answers that question.  
9     Let me ask you this. Did you do other closings with him?  
10    Beyond the one you just talked about?

11                  A     Yeah, I did many closings.

12                  Q     All right. I'm going to take you through  
13 another one. Government Exhibit 1.11. What's that document?

14                  A     Excuse me, sir?

15                  Q     Can you identify what that document is for  
16 the --

17                  A     It's a HUD-1 statement I have in front of me,  
18 I have all the same documents.

19                  Q     And what property does that relate to?

20                  A     129 Henry Johnson Boulevard in Albany.

21                  Q     And who is the purchaser on that property?

22                  A     It would be Deryal again.

23                  Q     And what's the purchase price?

24                  A     It's saying 76,000.

25                  Q     All right.

1           A     That would be the contractual sales price.

2           Q     Okay. But the real sales price is what, do  
3 you know?

4           A     If you have a check in here for Deryal, or for  
5 Lucinda, the seller. It was \$14,341.

6           Q     Right. And the HUD-1, however, shows that she  
7 should have received \$69,582?

8           A     Well, the HUD-1, she should have received  
9 76,000, that was the contract price, but she might have had  
10 back taxes or something so she should have been walking out  
11 of closing with 69,000 as per the HUD-1. But she was getting  
12 76,000 for the property but there's adjustments obviously  
13 that brings her down to 69,000.

14          Q     And those are listed and the 69,000 figure is  
15 right in the bottom right-hand part of that?

16          A     Yeah.

17          Q     But in fact, you have the checks in front of  
18 you?

19          A     I do.

20          Q     And how much is the check that she gets?

21          A     It was 14,000 something.

22          Q     All right.

23          A     14,341.72.

24          Q     Okay. Looking at the bottom left-hand part of  
25 the HUD-1, it says that Deryal Williams would have brought in

1           \$21,106?

2           A      Yes.

3           Q      92 cents. Can you describe to the jury how  
4         that would have worked?

5           A      He would have probably brought in a bank  
6         check.

7           Q      And how would he have obtained that bank  
8         check?

9           A      I would have probably lent him money. He  
10         would have gone to our bank, opened up an account, came back,  
11         put the money in, and then, you know, the bank check would  
12         have probably come back to me or sometimes Matt and I would  
13         just go get our own bank check.

14          Q      But in any case it was not used to purchase  
15         the property?

16          A      No. Well, it was used to facilitate the fraud  
17         I guess you would call it, to get the bank to release the  
18         funds, approve the deal and then it would get handed back to  
19         us later.

20          Q      Okay. So the money wasn't used, just the  
21         physical check was used as flash money?

22          A      Yes, sir.

23          Q      And with respect to this, is this another  
24         closing where you would come in with a handwritten list  
25         saying here's how to distribute the money?

1           A     Handwritten or typed, depending on --

2           Q     I'd like to take you through the checks that  
3     were issued as a result of this closing.

4           A     Next couple pages.

5           Q     What is that check?

6           A     That's recording fees to Albany County.

7           Q     Next check?

8           A     New York State mortgage tax. Back taxes.

9           Q     You can keep going.

10           THE COURT: Well, you know what, it's getting  
11     after 5 right now.

12           MR. OLMSTED: Okay. We'll just go -- if I can  
13     go through these checks and then I'll stop?

14           THE COURT: All right.

15           Q     Deryal Williams?

16           A     Yep, that would have been cash to Deryal.

17           THE COURT: Is that on this transaction you're  
18     talking about, these checks?

19           THE WITNESS: Excuse me, sir?

20           THE COURT: Is this, are these checks for this  
21     transaction you're talking about with Exhibit 1.11?

22           MR. OLMSTED: Yes.

23           THE COURT: Is that what we're talking about?

24           MR. OLMSTED: They're all part of  
25     Exhibit 1.11.

1                   THE WITNESS: Yep. Yes.

2                   THE COURT: This is 129 Henry Johnson  
3 Boulevard?

4                   THE WITNESS: Yes, I believe so, sir.

5                   Q If you could keep -- we'll just continue a  
6 couple more checks. Matt Kupic, can you -- what is that  
7 check for?

8                   A That would have been cash to Matt. Broker fee  
9 to the mortgage broker. Mike's closing fee. Finder's fee.

10                  Q Next check?

11                  A That would have been a fee to our company.

12                  Q \$7,000?

13                  A Yeah. Cash to the buyer.

14                  Q Next check?

15                  A That would have been probably the seller's  
16 attorney.

17                  Q Next check?

18                  THE COURT: I thought the buyer was Deryal  
19 Williams.

20                  THE WITNESS: The buyer is Deryal Williams but  
21 Sean and Deryal were partners so they would just have me  
22 write checks the way they wanted them and I would ask Mike to  
23 do it and he would just write checks. Didn't necessarily  
24 matter who was in the transaction.

25                  THE COURT: Okay.

1           Q     Next check?

2           A     That would be a tax escrow.

3           Q     And the next check?

4           A     Money to me.

5           Q     It says Francis Disonell, the last one was  
6 Thomas Disonell.

7           A     I go by Thomas, Tom, I'm the third so I've  
8 never went by Francis so that's just --

9           Q     So that's a check to you?

10          A     Yes. More money to the seller, and that  
11 might -- we might have noticed at the end we made a mistake  
12 so we just gave her more money.

13          Q     You had a \$7,000 check to the Real Estate  
14 Consultants and then individual checks; how did you decide  
15 among you and Matt Kupic how to divvy up money?

16          A     We didn't really, we were just -- we didn't  
17 really have a formal relationship. If we put some money in  
18 the company for operating and we take whatever money we  
19 wanted any which way we want it. I was married with kids so  
20 I take more money sometimes and, you know, Matt was -- it  
21 would just depend on what we were doing that month.

22          Q     And so you would -- and how would Michael  
23 Bouchard know how to cut those checks?

24          A     I would probably have told him, Matt or I.

25           MR. OLMSTED: Before I go to the next topic

1 I'll stop for the night.

2 THE COURT: All right, fine, members of the  
3 jury, Judi, can we start at 9 tomorrow? Can you come in at  
4 9? Is there anything you need in the jury room? What do you  
5 need?

6 A JUROR: Our coats and purses are in there.

7 THE COURT: Oh, no, no, no, in the morning.

8 A JUROR: You mean for the jury room? No,  
9 we're good.

10 THE COURT: All right. Remember your rules of  
11 conduct. I'll see you all in the morning.

12 (Jury Excused, 5:07 p.m.)

13 THE COURT: You're all set, sir. See you all  
14 at 9:00.

15 THE CLERK: Court's in recess.

16 (Court Adjourned, 5:08 p.m.)

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## C E R T I F I C A T I O N

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5 Official Court Reporter in and for the United States  
6 District Court, Northern District of New York, DO  
7 HEREBY CERTIFY that I attended the foregoing  
8 proceedings, took stenographic notes of the same,  
9 and that the foregoing is a true and correct  
10 transcript thereof.

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JODI L. HIBBARD, RPR, CRR, CSR  
Official U.S. Court Reporter